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P.O.W., Salford.

MR. C. WM. CARLETON-CROWE.
The Bishop, "What Happened to Jones."
Feb. 24, Harrogate. Feb. 27, Buxton.

MR. HAROLD CARSON.
Acting Manager for Mr. James Welch.
Address, Grand Theatre, Hull.

MR. FREDERICK CASTLEMAN.
"The Blindness of Virtue."
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MR. W. H. CAVENDISH.
Light Comedy, Character, Old Men,
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MR. DOUGLAS CECIL.
"Silver Creek" Co.
Public Hall, Runcorn.

MR. G. CHALMERS - COLONA.
Savoy Theatre, W.C.

MR. FRANCIS CHAMIER.
His Majesty's Theatre. VIOLET CHAMIER, dis. Perm. add., 15, Gordondale-road, Wimbledon Park, S.W.

MR. S. J. CHAPMAN.
Mr. John Lawson's "Humanity" Co.
The Surrey.

MR. ALICK CHUMLEY.
South Coast Repertory Co.
24, Pembroke-avenue, Hove.

MR. CHARLES CLARKE.
Stage Manager, "The Easiest Way."
Feb. 24, O.H., Leicester.

MR. WALTER CLARKE.
Heavy Lead, "Nick Carter, Detective," Co.
Feb. 24, St. George's Hall, Falmouth.

MR. F. GERARD CLIFTON.
Alan Jeffcote, "Hindle Wakes" Tour.
All coms., 32, Regent-street, London, W.

MR. & MRS. GEO. EDWIN CLIVE
(Miss Amber Wyville), disengaged. Term. tour "Price of Silence." Managers' Club.

MR. C. F. COLLINGS.
As Monseigneur in "Nell Gwynne."
Lyceum Theatre, W.C.

MR. SYDNEY COMPTON.
"Charley's Aunt" Co.
Marlborough Theatre, Holloway, N.

MR. WILFRID COMPTON, Light Com., Char., Dudes. MISS MIRIAM HOLT. Juvs., Light Com. Disengaged. St. Kevin, Bristol-rd., Wavertree, Liverpool.

MR. MARTIN COMSTOCK.
The Man U Know.
County Theatre, Bangor, North Wales.

MR. and MRS. FRED. L. CONNYNGHAME. Dis., Character and Comedy. F. L. C., concluding Special Eng. with Mr. Evelyn A'Dell, as Daddy Dean, "The Old Home." 14, Rutland-st., Swansea.

MR. TOM CONWAY.
Big success as the Cook, "Whittington,"
Prince's Theatre, Bristol.

MR. TOM CONWAY.
March 3,
Bedminster Hippodrome, Bristol.

MR. BERNARD COPPING, MISS ISA BELLINGTON. B. C., Miss Horniman's Co., Gaiety, Manchester. 40, Booth-st. E., Manchester.

MR. J. W. CORDINER.
Feb. 24,
Brighouse (3), Grantham (3).

MR. ERNEST G. COVE.
Secretary, "Miss Llewelyn." Dis. Feb. 21. Can rehearse immediately. Char. parts, Shakespeare, or modern. Add., Vaudeville T., Strand.

MR. and MRS. VERNON COWPER.
"Queen of the Wicked."
All coms., V. C., Managers' Club, W.C.

MR. and MRS. PHILIP DARIEN
(Violet Macaree). Lead.
All coms., Middlesex Theatre, W.C.

MR. HARRY W. DAY.
General Manager,
Gaiety Theatre, Ayr.

MR. and MRS. JACK DENTON
(Hettie Chattell).
38, Home Park-road, Wimbledon Park, S.W.

MR. P. HAWKSW[ORTH]
Sir Toby Belch, Dogberry, Glosop-Harris Co. Bognor (3)

MR. KAY
General Manager, Mr. G[eorge]
"Dancing Mistress" Co. Prince[s]
chester.

MR. MARCUS
Feb. 24,
County Theatre, Ban[bury]

MR. and MRS. T. W. I[RWIN]
(Miss Marie Tennan
4, Banstead-street, Le[ith]

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Principal Comedian. Dis[engaged]
Offers invited. C/o "The

MR. BASIL
Alderman Ingot, "David G[arrick]
Disengaged Feb. 24. 70, Jerningha[m]

MR. CHARLES A. EAS[TON]
Producer, Middlesex. EAST[BOURNE]
Disengaged. 17, Adie-road, Ha[mmersmith]

MR. LUKE FO[X]
Duke of York's Theatre
201, Church-road, Willes[den]

MR. and MRS. FRANK H[OLLINS]
In Comedy Sketches, "The 100
&c. Feb. 24, Vacant. Add., 56, U[pper]
mouth.

MR. CHARLES FR[OHMAN]
Address,
15, St. John's-street, Deviz[es]

MR. W. H. GA[RDINER]
Ivan and Stage Management,
a Wife" Co. Prince's Theatre, Black[burn]

MR. WILLIE
Disengaged.
41, Montford-place, Kenning[ton]

MR. JAMES G[ORDON]
The Sheffield Repertory Sea[son]
At liberty in March.

MR. A. H.
Engaged for Mr. Frederick B[en]
duction of "The Pretenders." Hay[market]

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(Miss Mabel Durham).
"The Sledgehammer." Hip.,

MR. ALFRED G[ILBERT]
Lead in Stock Season,
Her Majesty's Theatre, W[est]

MR. DOUGLAS
Harkins, "Get-Rich-Quick
Queen's Theatre, W.C.

MR. STANLEY S.
General Manager and Prod[uction]
Theatre Royal, West Brom[wich]

MR. HAROLD
"The Walls of Jericho"
Theatre Royal, Macclesfi[eld]

MR. HERBERT
Feb. 24,
Theatre Royal, Sheffiel[d]

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Berkeley, Chester-rd., Erdington, Birmi[ngham]

MR. CHARLES HA[WTREY]
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(Miss Carlotta Anson). Touring
Women Will Do For Love." Empire
Cradley Heath.

MR. ERIC HUDS[ON]
Kelly (633 times), "The Whip."
At liberty March 31. New T., Manches[ter]

MR. C. WORDLEY HULSE. U[NDERWOOD]
studying Hajj, "Kismet" (N. Co.).
41, Lillieshall-road, Clapham Common,

MR. S. HERBERT HUMBE[RT]
ring as Paul Sylvaine in "Leah K[leschna]
Disengaged Easter. G. Junction, Man[chester]

MR. P. HUNT - I[NGLIS]
Acting Manager, South Coast Repe[rtory]
103, Shooter's Hill-road, Blackheath,

MR. S. MAJOR J[ACKSON]
Stage Manager,
Lyceum Theatre, W.C.

MR. GERALD JOR[DAN]
As Captain Greville Sartoris.
"The Whip" Co. New Theatre, Man[chester]

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Permanent address,
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MR. HENRY KI[NG]
Disengaged. Offers invited.
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Permanent address, 19, Parkfield-drive, Li[verpool]

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Manager, Tom B. Davis' "Jack H[orner]
Pantomime. Shakespeare Theatre, Liver[pool]

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Business Manager, F. R. Benson,
(South). Add., Managers' Club, 5, Wardour-st[reet]

CENT W. LAWSON.
Irish Club, 28, Charing Cross-
7 Gerrard.

ORGE F. LEICESTER.
Parts, Old Men, &c. Disengaged.
treet, Kennington-road, S.E.

RY LESMERE. Bluff,
lton Bode and Edward Compton's
Co. Feb. 24, Wimbledon Theatre.

ARDENE LINDEN.
d by Mr. George Waters.
per Woburn-place, W.C.

MRS. FRANK LISTON
rburton). Leading Business.
rs' Club, 5, Wardour-street, W.

SAM LIVESEY.
Lyceum Theatre.
Club, 5, Wardour-street, W.C.

EWLASS LLEWELLYN.
h in "An Adventure of Aristide."
of York's Theatre, W.C.

MRS. LODGE-PERCY.
Own Companies.
xt, Osborne Theatre, Manchester.

WCETT LOMAX. Disen-
English, Irish, and Scotch Dialect
vonport-road, Shepherd's Bush, W.

ARTHUR LONGLEY.
dress all communications,
ard-street, Russell-square, W.C.

MONTAGU LOVE.
d by Mr. Frederick Harrison for
on, Haymarket Theatre.

WILLIAM LUGG.
, liberty. Craven House,
-road Grove Park, Chiswick, W.

CARL LYLE.
Friars' Club,
th-street, New York City.

MRS. H. DOBELL LYLE.
Randolph). Offers invited.
. Mervan-road, Brixton.

G. LYON-HASTINGS.
Disengaged.
ddress, 11, Oakley-square.

RS. CHALMERS MACKEY.
Own Company.
or Rostrevor, Poulton-le-Fylde.

J. T. MACMILLAN.
Address,
Lyceum Theatre, W.C.

MRS. GEORGE MALLETT
Leigh). Disengaged March 3.
isholme-road, Putney, S.W.

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d the Woman." Dis. April 5.
Next week, Kelly's T., Liverpool.

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gaged. Offers invited.
dress, c/o "The Era."

ERCY MARSHALL.
e Rufus, in "Doormats."
, Worthing and Cambridge.

WILLIAM MATTHEWS.
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berty. Lead or Management.
Managers' Club, Wardour-street.

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nks Mr. Fred Karno for offer.
Mr. Fred Baugh, Sadler's Wells T.

RTHUR McCULLOCH. Sir
han Dunne, "Jelf's." Dis., March 1.
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h 24, Grand Theatre, Leeds.

SANDERSON MOFFAT.
m, "Bunty." Original New York Co.
cond year. Boston Season.

HUGH MONTGOMERY.
IE HARCOURT. Star Lead, Comedy
cter. Grand Theatre, Croydon.

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"The Younger Generation," John
in "The Tallyman." Feb. 24, Folke-
Eastbourne (3).

GUS OXLEY.
Albert Umbles, "Peggy" Co.
Theatre Royal, Darlington.

JAMES E. PAGE.
Spettigue, "Charley's Aunt."
ddress, the Marlborough Theatre.

WILFRED E. PAYNE.
At liberty.
, Great Ormond-street, W.C.

WALTER PEMBERTON.
General-Manager,
nd the Woman." Kelly's, Liverpool.

PENNINGTON-GUSH.
Noel Gale in "Doormats."
Worthing (3), Cambridge (3).

and MRS. FRED W. PERMAIN
s Florence Le Clercq). In America. Add.,
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At liberty.
dd., Torquay Villa, Chiswick, W.

and MRS. FRANK E. PETLEY.
Address,
hycombe, 50, Thornton-avenue, Chiswick.

ERNEST A. PLUMPTON.
Dame, Mr. Rich Waldon's Panto., "Goody
hoes." Dis. March 8. S. M., Comedy, or
cter. Add., Princess's T., Glasgow.

WILLIAM PRINGLE.
Idle Jack,
Prince's Theatre, Bristol.

RULE PYOTT.
Keith Lodge, Epping, Essex.

and MRS. EDWARD RAY
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inging Parts. 69, Church-rd., S. Yardley,
ngham.

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Bernard Shaw's Plays.
Eastbourne (3); Folkestone (3).

MR. WILLIE SCOTT.
Rehearsing, "Monk and Woman" Tour.
Kelly's Theatre, Liverpool.

MR. LEWIS SEALY. Concluding two years' engagement with Mr. Granville Barker. At liberty Easter. Kingsway Theatre.

MR. ARCHIE SELWYN.
Sidney Rosenthal in "Ready Money."
Feb. 24, Theatre Royal, Newcastle.

MR. and MRS. JOHN B. SHINTON.
Own Repertory Season.
King's Theatre, Gateshead.

MR. JAMES SKEA.
Character Actor. Dis. March 1.
Kingsway Theatre, London.

MR. WILLIAM STACK.
Sheffield Repertory Theatre.
Feb. 24, Kit French in "Admiral Guinea."

MR. E. ST. ALBAN.
Disengaged April 7, Character and Comedy.
106, Holland Pk.-ave., Kensington, W. 'Phone, 1748 Padd.

MR. VICTOR STANLEY.
Engaged by Mr. George Waters for "After the Opera" and "Dust of Egypt." C/o "Era."

MR. ERNEST ST. JOHN. Acting Manager for Messrs. Seebold and Melrose's "Aladdin" Panto. T.R., Cardiff. At liberty March 8.

MR. CHARLES R. STONE.
Play-actor and Producer. Disengaged.
Offers, 51, Millbrook-road, Brixton, S.W.

MR. GEORGE STONE.
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MR. STORY-GOFTON.
Recitals, Parts, Productions, &c.
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General Manager, Francis Laidler's "Pride of Byzantia" Co. T.R., Rochdale.

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Nat Jeffcote "Hindle Wakes" Co.
Feb. 24, O.H., Northampton.

MR. J. MILNE TAYLOR.
Chris Hawthorn, "Hindle Wakes."
Opera House, Northampton.

MR. EDWARD THANE.
15, Mount Pleasant-lane, Upper Clapton, N.E.
'Phone, Dalston 542.

MR. and MRS. E. W. THOMAS
(Agnes Knights). E.W.T. as Dr. Isaacson in "Bella Donna." Feb. 24, Peterborough and Bury St. Edmunds. At lib. April 19.

MR. HOWARD L. TRACY. Business Representative, and Oliver Starbird, supporting Mr. Gerald Griffin in "Other People's Money."

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Disengaged. Character Business, or Old Men.
Address, 3, Mornington-crescent, N.W.

MR. HENRY TWEEDIE. Business Manager. Termination of Olga Nethersole's Tour. Add., Daneswood, Twickenham, nr. London.

MR. A. W. TYRER.
Stage Manager for Mr. Matheson Lang.
Address, 152, Warwick-street, Eccleston-sq., S.W.

MR. CHARLES VANE.
At liberty.
1, Spencer-road, W. Wimbledon.

MR. E. VASSALL-VAUGHAN.
Dr. Rylott in "The Speckled Band."
Feb. 24, Theatre Royal, Smethwick.

MR. HERBERT VERE. Lead, Heavies, Character, Special Parts. Lib. 27, Rectory-rd., Burnley. Next, 7, Green-lane, Heaton Moor, Stockport.

MR. FREDERICK VICTOR.
Richard Dexter, "Find the Woman."
Grand Theatre, Leeds.

MR. and MRS. DOUGLAS VIGORS
(Lucy Beaumont). 25, Bridge Avenue-mansions, W. Tel., 1105 Hammersmith.

MR. and MRS. HAROLD WAGNER
(Miss Ada Tilley). Touring "A Trip to Chinatown." Feb. 24, Metropole Theatre, Bootle.

MR. HYLTON WARDE.
Principal Comedian. On Tour.
Perm., 17, Doris-road, Norwich.

MR. W. LEMMON WARDE.
"Milestones."
Royalty Theatre.

MR. ERNEST WATTS-TYE.
Ibrahim in "Bella Donna."
Feb. 24, Peterborough; Bury St. Edmunds.

MR. FRANK WEATHERSBY.
Theatrical Agency, 3, Bedford-street, Strand.
'Phone, 3781 Cen. Tel., "Frivolous, Westrand, London."

MR. CHARLES WEIR.
Disengaged shortly.
131, Lauderdale-mansions, Maida Vale, W.

MR. CHARLES A. WHITE.
At liberty, Easter and on. Character, Comedy, or Produce. 1, Harewood-rd., Merton, S.W.

MR. WILL WHITE, F.O.S.
General Manager,
Alhambra, Belfast.

MR. ANDREW WIGHT.
Archie Mull in "Jelf's."
Feb. 24, Cambridge (3); Leamington (3).

MR. HERBERT WILLIAMS.
O'Brien, "The Indian Mutiny."
Princes Theatre, W.C.

MR. BREMBER WILLS.
Miss Horniman's Company.
Gaiety Theatre, Manchester.

MR. ALFRED WILTSHIRE. S. M., and Harry Tavender, "Joseph Entangled," and Freddie Tatton, "The Liars." Pal. Pier. Brighton.

MR. FRANK WITHERS.
Disengaged. Business management.
Address, 21, Clarendon-gardens, Maida Vale, W.

MR. DUNCAN YARROW.
The F. R. Benson Co.
Gaiety Theatre, Dublin.

MR. NORMAN YATES.
"Ready Money." New Theatre, W.C.
Disengaged March 3.

MR. CECIL MORTON YORK.
Hennessy and Gen. Mgr., Miss Jessie Millard's Co. Feb. 24, Metropolitan.

ENTERTAINERS.

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MAIE HOEY.
'Phone, 870 Mayfair. Letters,
Clavier Hall, Princes-st., Hanover-square, W.

ADELE LEVEY,
the Famous Story-teller.
C/o "The Era." Wires, 14, Calthorpe-street, W.C.

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MASONS AT WORK.

DRAMATIC MARK LODGE.

The members of this co-fraternity held their February meeting last Tuesday at the Mark Masons' Hall, Great Queen Street, London, under the presidency of Mr. James Powell, a P.M. of the Drury Lane Lodge, with the assistance of his officers, Messrs. Chris Hilton, I.P.M.; Harry Nicholls, P.G.Std.B., acting as S.W.; Alfred Ellis, J.W.; Ludwig Simon, M.O.; G. A. Keen, P.M., acting as S.O.; W. Edwyn Holloway, J.O.; Rev. C. E. L. Wright, M.A., P.G.C., chaplain; Charles Cruikshanks, P.M., treasurer, acting as R. of M., and Secretary; Douglas Gordon, S.D.; W. H. Roberts (Atlas), J.D.; A. H. Hunt, I.G.; Willie Rouse (with the assistance of A. M. Latham and Frank Tubby), acting as organist; and F. Banchini, tyler. There were also present Messrs. C. T. Coggin, P.M., Albert Craddock, C. Wynham-Quin, E. Vivian Reynolds, Percy Plowman, and George Harvey. The visitors included Messrs. J. Sharp (Edinburgh), W. B. Craster (Bon Accord), Col. Hy. Walker, I.P.M., of Drury Lane Lodge (Tuscan), Walter Fisher, P.G.T., and G. A. King, P.G.O.

After the disposition of formal business, Mr. A. E. George, proposed as candidate for advancement to the honourable degree by Mr. Harry Nicholls, the proposition being seconded by Mr. Charles Cruikshanks, was balloted for and declared to be duly elected. Mr. George was presented, and received at the hands of the master the benefits of induction to the privileges of a M.M.M., the ceremony being very impressively rendered by all concerned, the master's scholarly rendition of the ancient rites being specially noteworthy.

Mr. William Bishop, a P.M. of the Avondale Lodge, and Messrs. Hunt and Thomas, were nominated as candidates for admission to the fraternity, and the ballot for their election will take place at the meeting of the Lodge in March next.

Mr. William Edwyn Holloway was invested with the collar of his office as J.O., and Mr. Douglas Gordon was invested as S.D.

Apologies for non-attendance were received from Messrs. J. H. Ryley, S.W.; Will Sparkes, secretary; Clarence Sounes, R. of M.; E. H. Bull; W. Evans Garstin; Lt.-Col. W. H. Drage, D.S.O.; on behalf of the Rt. Hon. Lord Athlumney, P.G.W.; W. J. Chichele Nourse; J. E. Hambleton, P.M.; Wm. Lawrence; and A. E. Mallinson. Major G. S. Beeching, V.D., the Director of Ceremonies, and Mr. Frank Callingham, First Steward, were unable to be present owing to ill-health, and telegrams conveying expressions of sympathy were sent to them.

The dinner at the Connaught Rooms, which followed the meeting in the Lodge, was a very enjoyable one, and the post-prandial toasts were duly honoured, the speeches in response were commendably short and to the point. Mr. Walter Fisher responded for the "Grand Officers, Present and Past"; Mr. A. E. George as "Advancee," and Mr. Charles Cruikshanks for the "Officers of the Lodge." The toast of "The Master," proposed by Mr. Chris Hilton, I.P.M., was enthusiastically received, and Mr. William Powell acknowledged the compliments in fitting terms.

An excellent programme of music, etc., was submitted by Miss Olive Fox, Miss Zelinda Davis, and Messrs. Alfred Ellis, Reginald Johnson, S. Parry, and Will Sparks.

During the evening the eight o'clock toast, "Absent Friends," was given.

The next meeting of the Lodge will be held on Thursday, the 27th prox.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

"Fifteen Years of a Dancer's Life." By Loie Fuller. With an introduction by Anatole France. 288 pages. Illustrated. Price 10s. 6d. net. Published by Herbert Jenkins, Ltd.

"The Law of Copyright." By J. B. Richardson, M.A., LL.B. 359 pages. Price 6s. net. Published by Jordan and Sons, Ltd.

"Music on the Shakespearean Stage." By G. H. Cowling. Illustrated. 114 pages. Price 4s. net. Published by the Cambridge University Press.

"The London Magazine" for March. Price 6d. Published by the Amalgamated Press, Ltd.

"The Pall Mall Magazine" for March. Price 6d. net. Published by Iliffe and Sons, Ltd.

"Woman and To-morrow." By W. L. George. 188 pages. Price 2s. 6d. net. Published by Herbert Jenkins, Ltd.

Maie Hoey appeared with great success as Mrs. Bardell and Mrs. Squeers at Clavier Hall last Sunday.

Mr. Esmé Percy, who was the guest of the evening on Sunday last at the Oxford University Dramatic Society, and delivered a lecture on "Bernard Shaw," said, in the course of his address: "Bernard Shaw's campaign against society in general, and the theatre in particular, is a repetition of the frantic assault on, and defeat of, the pseudo-classic French theatre by the Romantics of 1830, with the blessed difference that Hugo and his army of lurid poets encumbered the desolate Temple of Thespis with some gems and much rubbish; Shaw the Puritan has swept the sanctuary clean, thrown wide open the doors to the winds of heaven, at the risk of extinguishing the alluring mystic altar fire; but he has let in the sun."

Daw's Steamship Agency recently arranged the following sailings:—Feb. 12, by the Majestic, Mrs. Elizabeth Gillen; Feb. 14, by the Orama, J. Le Mont, H. Bell; Feb. 19, by the Kronprinzessin Cecilie, Miss Willa Holt Wakefield, A. McLellan, T. Mullin, Mr. and Mrs. H. Day, George Hardie; and to-day, by the Mauretania, Stoddard and Hynes. Daw's have also arranged the following: March 5, by the Philadelphia, Italo Fantino, Otto Ernst, Anna Fantino, Balmina Fantino, Jenny Niard, Reniedios Alvarez, Milagros Alvarez; March 5, by the Kaiser Wilhelm II., Mr. and Mrs. Albert Wiser, Mr. and Mrs. Moran; March 6, by the Carpathia, Mrs. Reba Conway; and March 15, by the Carmania, Mrs. Ethel M. Doyle, Mrs. E. Cloke.

Mr. Frank Mundill, manager for Young Buffalo, writes:—"Dear Sir,—Your Plymouth correspondent, in giving notice of Young Buffalo at the Grand Theatre last week, mentioned that Young Buffalo and his company were appearing in 'Queen of the Redskins.' This is an error. Young Buffalo up to the present has not played in any other play in this country except, of course, "The Cowboy and the Girl," which is a sketch, and written by himself; nor is he in any way connected with any other attraction but George N. Ballanger's.—Empire Theatre, Swindon, Feb. 20, 1913."

In view of the vogue of Mr. Granville Barker's system of mounting at the Savoy, the Morris Dance is likely to be of importance to theatrical managers, and any information connected with it is interesting. Mr. Cecil J. Sharp on Thursday evening gave a lecture on the art of "Morris Dancing," with demonstrations by members of the English Folk Dance Society, at the small Queen's Hall, Langham-place. He explained the differences of character and also the connection between sword and Morris dances. The Morris dance was, he said, an artistic development of the sword dance. Several demonstrations of Morris dancing were given in the course of the lecture.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1913

46th YEAR OF PUBLICATION.
THE MOST ENTERTAINING ANNUAL OF THE YEAR.

A COMPLETE COMPENDIUM OF THE THEATRE.

Better late than never, "The Era" Annual has just made its appearance. In addition to articles and stories by popular members of the theatrical profession, it contains a large amount of instructive matter, and full details of all important productions in London, the provinces, Paris, Berlin, and New York.—"Daily Telegraph" Feb. 13, 1913.

"The Era" Annual is to hand somewhat later than usual. It follows the lines laid down by many predecessors. The almanack records many occurrences affecting the profession, as the installation of Mr. Harry Tate as King Rat in 1911, the Baconian Society Dinner of 1912, and the performances of sundry plays that the Censor declined to license. Popular artistes contribute short articles. Sir Herbert Tree, for instance, has a few words on his desire for universal peace. Sir Squire Bancroft tells a pretty anecdote, which one fancies is to be found in his well-known book. Miss Ellen Terry candidly draws on her "Story of My Life." These articles are embellished with portraits of their authors and reproductions of the authors' signatures. There is the usual excellent record of plays, with their casts, produced in London and elsewhere during 1912, and sketches are not forgotten. On the whole the high standard set by previous issues is well sustained, and a useful and trustworthy work of reference is the result.—"Morning Post," Feb. 15, 1913.

The directory section of "The Era" Annual is greatly enlarged and improved this year, and the value of the publication as a work of reference is, therefore, considerably enhanced. Complete lists and casts of all new plays in London and the provinces, and in New York, Berlin, and Paris, are now included; also lists of new music-hall sketches.—"Daily Express," Feb. 8, 1913.

The new issue of "The Era" Annual has many other claims to consideration, for the 1913 issue, capitally edited by Mr. Frank Desprez, is as usual a perfect storehouse of useful information on all matters appertaining to theatres and music halls in the United Kingdom, Paris, Berlin, and New York. In addition to the usual lists and tables of productions, revivals, &c., it contains many stories told by well-known actors and actresses, with excellent portraits of the authors. Among such contributors are Sir Herbert Tree, Sir Squire Bancroft, Miss Ellen Terry, Miss Evie Greene, Miss Phyllis Dare, Miss Marie Tempest, Mr. C. Hayden Coffin, Miss Lydia Kyasht, and Mme. Saran Bernhardt. The 1913 Annual not merely maintains its previous standard—in some respects it goes beyond it.—"Referee," Feb. 9, 1913.

Forty-six and not out, such is the record of "The Era" Annual, and it is one of which any journal may well be proud. Edited by Mr. Frank Desprez, who has been associated with "The Actor's Bible" for so many years, the present year's issue is full of good things, and matters of real import and interest not only to members of the theatrical profession themselves, but to all who are interested in plays and players. The Annual contains, among other things, a number of short stories by well-known players, among others Madame Sarah Bernhardt, Sir Herbert Tree, Mr. Ben Webster, and many more, and is an excellent shilling's worth.—"Pelican," Feb. 12, 1913.

The forty-sixth "Era" Annual has just been published, and, as usual, is full of useful information. In addition to the full casts of every music hall sketch and play that was produced in the United Kingdom last year, there is a series of stories told by well-known people, mostly connected with the theatrical profession. Altogether it forms one of the best shillingsworths of its kind.—"Sporting Life," Feb. 12, 1913.

"The Era" Dramatic and Musical Annual, 1913, Edited by Frank Desprez. (5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.) 1s. This excellent Annual is better got up than ever in the past, and that is saying much. All who are interested in the stage must secure a copy, which is indispensable. A delightful series of articles, by prominent actors and actresses, with the authors' portraits, is a charming feature of the volume.—"Financier and Bullionist," Feb. 8, 1913.

"The Era" Annual is highly valued by all connected with the stage for purposes of reference, and there are also thousands of playgoers who rely upon the familiar volume to keep them thoroughly conversant with matters theatrical. These players will find the Annual for 1913 not less attractive and not less comprehensive than previous issues. First there are given stories, diverting or exciting, of the experiences of well-known actors and actresses, and along with each story is given a fine portrait of the narrator. These stories are followed by an accurate and exhaustive list of all the new plays and important revivals produced at the London theatres from Dec. 1, 1911, to Nov. 30, 1912. Similar lists for the London suburban theatres and for the provinces are also given. Then come the casts of these new plays and revivals, and an alphabetical list of sketches produced. The Annual concludes with excellent portraits of eminent players who have passed away, the obituary list including the names of William Mollison, Florence St. John, W. S. Penley, Emily Soldene, George Grossmith, sen., and Edward Terry.—"Aberdeen Daily Journal," Feb. 10, 1913.

"The Era" Annual, which has just made its appearance, fully maintains the qualities, usefulness, and interest which have characterised the issue for a number of years past. The productions and revivals in the English theatres and music-halls are given in detail with the full casts, and there are also useful lists of the important new plays and revivals in Paris, Berlin, and New York. As usual, many leading members of the profession have contributed interesting stories or anecdotes, and each is accompanied by autographed portraits of the authors.—"Birmingham Daily Mail," Feb. 12, 1913.

Price One Shilling; at all Booksellers and bookstalls; by post, Fifteen Pence.

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8, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, W.C.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS).

ABBREVIATIONS: In order to effect a saving in space the following abbreviations are used in these columns: P. (Proprietor); P. & M. (Proprietor and Manager); M. D. (Managing Director); L. & M. (Lessee and Manager); M. (Manager); G. M. (General Manager); A. M. (Acting Manager); Asst. M. (Assistant Manager); R. M. (Resident Manager); B. M. (Business Manager); T. M. (Touring Manager); Mus. D. (Musical Director); Mus. C. (Musical Conductor); S. (Secretary); S. & T. (Secretary and Treasurer).

ABERDEEN.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—P., the Robert Arthur Theatres Co., Ltd.; A. M., Mr. H. Adair Nelson; Mus. D., Mr. A. W. Loseby.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Robert Courtneidge's production "Princess Caprice." T. M., Mr. Charles Borer. The company includes: Mr. Gordon Cleather, Mr. Albert Kavanagh, Mr. Harry Ray, Mr. Jo Monkhouse, Mr. Horace Lingard, Mr. James Stevenson, Mr. Ormesly H. McKiernan, Mr. Basil Kempsfield, Mr. Lamont Dickson, Mr. Leslie Vernon, Mr. Lewis Oliver, Mr. Lane Mott, Mr. Leslie Riley, Mr. T. Emery, Mr. Eric Thorne, Miss Mary Dandridge, Miss Olive Purcell, Miss Gwen Kinross, Miss Berta Donne, Miss Doris Vinson, Miss Lillian Constance, Miss Adriene Yates, Miss Isabelle Dillon, Miss Marie Blanche. Next week: "The Miracle."

TIVOLI.—P., the Tivoli (Aberdeen), Ltd.; M. D. & Licensee, Mr. Walter Gilbert.—This week (twice nightly): Edward Marris presents "Faking the Film"; Martin Henderson, blind musician; Hayes and Merritt; Edward H. Lucas and daughter, in scenes from Dickens; Greeta Mack, singer; Phil Bransby, comedian; Walter Bird and company present "Her Husband"; pictures.

PALACE.—L., the Tivoli (Aberdeen), Ltd.; M. D. & Licensee, Mr. Walter Gilbert; A. M., Mr. F. Lawson Clark.—This week (twice nightly): The Two Mermaids; Two Zets, singers and dancers; De Gonza Trio, jugglers; pictures.

ABERTILLERY.

NEW METROPOLE.—P. & M., Messrs. C. J. Seaborn and Bob Evans; M. D., Mr. F. Drake.—This week: Mr. Evelyn A'Dell's company play "The Old Home." The cast includes: Messrs. Fred L. Connynghame, Evelyn A'Dell, Cliffe H. Astley, Reginald Brown, Fred Stone, John Ernest, Harry Dean, Tom Baker, Jack Turner, and Misses Amy Dalby, Harriette Loydall, and Ethel Ashleigh. Next week: "The Chocolate Soldier.

PAVILION.—P., Messrs. A. Tilney and Sons: M., Mr. E. Pryce.—This week (twice nightly): Stewart and Morgan, Cling and Clancy, Addie Le Noir, Zena Clare, and pictures.

ACCRINGTON.

GRAND THEATRE.—P., Mr. William Wilson; R. M., Mr. Fred W. Green.—This week: The Accrington Garrick Amateur Dramatic Society present "The Walls of Jericho." The proceeds to be given to local charities.

NEW HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Fred Willmot; R. M., Mr. J. Windsor Stevenson.—This week: Mr. George Black's pantomime "Cinderella." The company includes: Misses May Gibson, Kitty Upton, Gertie Rex, Annie Cohen, Daisy Melbourne, Messrs. Percy Johnson, Stanley Vandyke, Bert Earle, Jack Melville, Horace Horner, and Messrs. Firth and Forth. T. M., Mr. Cyril Smith. Matinée, Wednesday, at 2.30.

EMPIRE PALACE.—P., Mr. William Wilson; M., Mr. Harold Wilson.—This week: Mr. George Thornton's Orchestra; and pictures.

QUEEN'S HALL.—A. M., Mr. Havelock Bowker.—This week: Mr. Emile Aspden, humorist; and pictures.

ALDERSHOT.

THEATRE ROYAL. — L. & M., Mr. Clarence Sounes; G. M., Mr. Jack Gladwin; A. M., Mr. Percy Barrow.—This week: "Find the Woman," presented by Mr. Arthur Bourchier's company. The cast includes: Messrs. Frederick Victor, Oliver Crombie, Olaf Hytten, Ernest Cassel, Arthur Elwyn, Walter Goodwin, Lewis Clarke, James Carr, Fred Charles, Arthur Seymour, and Mr. Mathew Forsyth; and Misses Agnes Verity, Sybil Clayton, and Marion Lockey. Preceded by "Salomy Jane's Kiss." T. M., Mr. Eric G. Merrie. Next week: "The Glad Eye."

HIPPODROME. — P. & M., Mr. Clarence Sounes.—This week: Charlie Bell in "The Demon Photographer"; Joan Deering, the Gainsborough girl; Mr. and Miss De Brean in Japanese entertainment; Bernard, card manipulator; Tom Morton and Maggie Bowman, in character studies; Charles Prelle's bijou circus; Archie Glen, comedian and raconteur; and Marjorie Bates, in songs at the piano.

ARBROATH.

PALACE THEATRE.—M., Mr. Arthur Dean; Asst. M., Mr. Alex. Melvin.—This week: Rogers and Keezing, Hebrew comedians; Dave Abbott, comedian; Lylie Bonner, comedian; and pictures.

OLYMPIA.—M., Mr. Graham Brown.—This week; Six Seftons, vocalists and dancers, including Wee Hettie, juvenile dancer; O'Donovan and Rossa, singers and dancers; A. C. Astor, ventriloquist; and pictures.

ASHINGTON.

MINERS' THEATRE.—P., Messrs. Thompson and Metcalfe; R. M., Mr. Harry Clegg.—This week (twice nightly, and Saturday matinée, 2.30): Harry Burns presents "The Forty Thieves." The cast includes: Miss Olive Plant, Miss Minnie D'Aubyn, Miss Mona Vivian, Miss Winnie Barr, Miss Mabel Sancton, Miss Mabel Fenwicke, Mr. Robbie Walker, Mr. Edwin Garth, Mr. Phillip Kenouf, Messrs. Boriski Bros., Mr. Ruebin Kitchen, Mr. Victor Tyler, Mr. Walter West, and the Four Fedoras.

PAVILION.—P., Hirst Pavilion Co.; R. M., Mr. Frank Percival.—This week (twice nightly): Dan Erlston and company, in "Buffaloed," the cast including Dan Erlston, W. S. Feverel, H. W. Pierson, Leonard Taylor, and Miss Doris M. Strathmore; also Ted and Lucy, vocalists; Dave Elliot, blind concertina artiste; George Handell and Page, equilibrists; and pictures.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole P. & M., Mr. Charles Revill; A. M., Mr. Charles Revill; Mus. D., Mr. W. H. Halton.—This week (twice nightly): Derwent Hall Caine presents "The Bondman." The company includes: Mr. Walter Hunt, Mr. Miller Anderson, Mr. Arthur Oliver, Mr. Gerald Nolan, Mr. David Macfarlane, Mr. J. J. Dooling, Mr. Walter Meux, Mr. Herbert Wills, Mr. Horace Roxberry, Mr. Charles Harley, Miss Dora Evans, Miss Constance Lamming, Miss Beatrice Humber, Miss Dorothy Stephen. T. M., Mr. Ernest F. Wallace. Next week: "The Girl in the Picture.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. William Henry Broadhead and Son; R. A. M., Mr. John Boyle; Mus. D., Mr. Fred Heck.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. H. A. Jordison presents "Red Riding Hood." The company includes: Little Violet Jeanes, Lily Keand, Ernie Jack, Fred Dunstone, Fred Spencer, Arthur Carthy, jun., William R. Bennett, J. R. Bennett, Percy Curry, N. Barry, Stella Wyndham, Rosie Carr, Doris Wheatley, Ethel Elliott, Gertrude Sylvester, Ena Cairns, Dollie Cullen, Elsie Jordison. T. M., Mr. Napier Barry. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.30.

PICTURE PAVILION.—P., Messrs. William Henry Broadhead and Son; R. A. M., Mr. Arthur Downes; Mus. D., Mr. Fred Coleman.—This week (twice nightly): Maisie and Mark, comedy duo; pictures. Matinées, Monday, Tuesday, and Saturday, at 2.30.

BACUP.

COURT THEATRE.—L. & M., Mr. John Walters.—This week: Turn, Ferin and Kirbey, dancers; and pictures.

PUBLIC HALL.—L., Messrs. Glenville and Osmond; M., Mr. J. H. Clay.—This week: Devaux, female impersonator; and pictures.

OLYMPIA PICTURE PALACE, STACKSTEADS.—L., Messrs. Cook and Co.; M., Mr J. H. Pollard.—This week: Musical Middies; Myles Parker, vocalist; Hardene and Mosford, pianist and baritone; and pictures.

BANGOR.

NEW COUNTY THEATRE.—P. & M., Mr. James Hare; A. M., Mr. G. W. Smith-Neill; Mus. D., Mr. John Bates.—This week (matinée on Wednesday): Mr. Harold Wagner and Miss Ada Tilley's company present "A Trip to Chinatown." The company consists of: Messrs Harry Benet, Edward De Vere, Fred Lytton, Frank Richie, Randolph Churchill, Richard C. Wagner, Fred Young, Bertram Dempster, Harold Wagner, Misses Marrie Churchill, Hilda Attenborough, Lillion Drake, Evelyn Petherick, Sybil Mudie, and Ada Tilley.

ELECTRIC PICTUREDROME.—P., Mr. J. Codman; M., Mr. W. Lea.—This week: Wally George, entertainer; Walter Fergusson, entertainer; and pictures.

BARNSLEY.

THEATRE ROYAL. — P., Barnsley Theatre Royal Co., Ld.; G. M., Mr. A. C. Mitchell.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. James Bell presents "A Fatal Crown." The company includes: Mr. Roy Cuthbert, Mr. Victor Gordon, Mr. W. H. Milton, Mr. Alex. T. Gillette, Mr. John Manners, Mr. Herbert Goddard, Little Tichbourne, Mr. Edward Rey, Mr. Guy Kinley, Mr. Wm. Sadler, Mr. W. Larkspear, Mr. W. Phillips, Mr. Leicester Hulk, Mr. J. Deville, Miss Ethel Toney, Miss Ethel Watkins, Miss Annie Bell. Next week: "What Women Will Do for Love."

EMPIRE PALACE.—P., The Barnsley Empire Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Will Smithson; A. M., Mr. J. Carrick.—The musical comedy "Peggy" is proving a capital attraction here this week. Mr. Gus Oxley as Albert Bartle is an able exponent of humour; and Miss Eva Macdonald as Doris Bartle is excellent and is well received.

BARNSTAPLE.

PICTUREDROME.—P., The Barnstaple Bridge Trustees: L., Messrs. W. J. Cooke and Harry Tresise.—This week: Miss Aurora, with Hon. horse, and dog; Miss Dorothy Sparks, vocalist; Souplessi, the boneless wonder; Newman and Wynne, comedy couple, in the "Handy Man"; and pictures.

PICTURE PALACE.—L. & M., Mr. G. D. Poulton.—This week: Leo Alder, Hebrew comedian; and pictures.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.

ROYALTY.—L. & M., Mr. Hugh Robertson; R. M., Mr. George Stone.—This week (once nightly, and matinée Saturday, 2.30): Mr. G. Dance's company in "The Chocolate Soldier." Company includes: Mr. Villiers Arnold, Miss Florence Hylton, Miss Maggie Gorman, Mr. Walter Williams, Mr. Harry Barnette, Mr. G. Collings, Mr. F. C. Page, Miss D. E. Pritchard, Miss Gladys Gregory, Mr. W. A. Harris, Mr. C. W. Hoddy, Miss Carrie Scott, Mr. Harry Crosse, Mr. Charles Sims, Miss Alice Coverick. Next week: "The Girl in the Train."

TIVOLI.—L. & M., Signor Pepi; R. M., Mr. Emilius Hill; Mus. D., Mr. T. H. Hulley.—This week (twice nightly): T. Elder Hearn, the millionaire entertainer; Nettie Wheeler, comedienne; Lil Sprightly, comedienne; Rivers and Sullivan, dancers; Violet Jay, vocalist; Syd Slater, entertainer; Francini Olloms and Page.

BARRY DOCK.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Tours, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Arthur Carlton; M., Mr. T. E. Maddox.—This week: Illustrated songs and pictures.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—P., Mr. Leon Vint; G. M., Mr. Arthur Brogden; R. M., Mr. H. Samson.—This week: "The Zancigs," in thought reading seance; Fyne and Hurley, comedians; and pictures.

BATH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. & M., Mr. Egbert Lewis; A. M., Mr. Lewis A. Long; Mus. D., Mr. G. Alexander.—This week (once nightly): The Bath Operatic Society present "Patience." The company includes: Mr. F. Harold Fortt, Mr. W. H. Simms, Mr. Graham Simmons, Mr. L. F. C. Baker, Mr. A. Bertram Fortt, Mr. J. T. Piper, Miss McKay Barry, Mme. Florence Edmunds, Miss Nellie McDowell, Miss Mary Wood, and Miss Winifred Thomas. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.30.

PALACE THEATRE.—R. M., Mr. Leslie Fairfax.—Chung Ling Soo, the wonderful illusionist, is for the third time appearing in Bath this week, drawing the usual crowded houses to be mystified and amused by his skill. Turns are also given by Bombardier Morris, the singing artilleryman; Miss Rose Hamel, the ambidextrons caricaturist; Allsop and Beckwith, comedians; George Maston, the Yorkshire mimic; Yazo, violinist; and the Victor Brothers, equilibrists. Matinée, Saturday.

BATLEY.

HIPPODROME.—L. & M., Mr. Charles Draycott; Mus. D., Mr. James Heggie.—This week: Mr. Charles Draycott in the one-act comedy, "Naval Engagements," supported by Mr. Edward R. Broadhead, Mr. Fred Imeson, Mr. Alfred T. Fox, Miss M. Adele Bolton, and Miss Maude Smith; Hulbert, ventriloquist; Sisters Ward, in their nautical operetta, "A Sailor's Love"; De Lil, illusionist and coin manipulator; and Gertrude Ribby, in her quick-change play, "Bonnie Prince Charlie."

BELFAST.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—M. D., Mr. Fred W. Warden; A. M., Mr. James M. McCann.—Mr. Leslie Moreton and Mr. Guyton Heath's No. 1 company opened here on Monday in the musical play, "Our Miss Gibbs." As Mary Gibbs, Miss Florence Ray furnished a dashing and vivacious impersonation, gaining a perfect triumph to which she was fairly entitled. Her songs, too, afforded much pleasure. Mr. Chris Wren gave an exceedingly droll impersonation of Timothy Gibbs, there not being a dull moment while he occupied the stage; and Mr. Sinclair Holden, a native of this city, was debonair as the Hon. Hughie Pierrepoint, speaking his lines with the utmost effect. As Mrs. Farquhar, Miss Beatrice St. Vincent was delightful; and Miss Mona Glyn, handsome and attractive as Mme. Jeanne, gained an assured success. Mr. Collins Rolfe was all that could be desired as the Earl of St. Ives; and Mr. Wilfred Norman deserves commendation for his impersonation of Slithers. Mr. Benson North was good as Mr. Toplady; and other rôles were sustained by Miss Violet Tremayne, Miss May Casson, Miss S. Cuthbert, Miss Ida Lorraine, and Messrs. Leslie Winter, Noel Spencer, W. Forbes, Fred Bentley, L. Edwards, etc. The chorus and augmented orchestra were under the able direction of Mr. H. A. Dyer. Next week: "Miss Hook of Holland."

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Warden, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Fred W. Warden.—The attraction here is the domestic and military drama, "His Child Wife," presented by Mr. Frank Lindo and Miss Marion Wakeford's company. The principal rôle of Ruth Fairholme was sustained with undoubted skill by Miss Marion Wakeford; and honours were also achieved by Mr. Frank Lindo who appears with no little success as James Hackett. The rôle of Arnold Mayne was done full justice to by Mr. Stephen C. Venner; and Mr. T. Graham Smith was all that could be desired as Captain Fairholme. Miss Cissy Whitfield deserves every commendation for her impersonation of Phœbe Wilkins; and the rôle of Ebenezer Crouch was luridly portrayed by Mr. John Soden. Mr. Sidney Dench, jun., acted with rare judgment as the Rev. Henry Denton; and the humour of the piece was in the hands of Miss Cissy Whitfield as Phœbe Wilkins and Mr. Harold Halloway as Tom Barker. Other rôles were efficiently sustained by Miss Helena Frances, Miss Kate Randolph, and Messrs. Henry Seymour, W. Somers, R. Armstrong, etc. Next week: "The Pet of the Ranch."

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—P., Alexandra Theatre Co., Ltd.; R. M. D., Mr. J. Leicester Jackson.—Pantomime succeeds pantomime at this popular theatre, and this week we have a visit from Mr. Richard Nightingale's company in "Dick Whittington." The cast is particularly good, the title-rôle being sustained in dashing style by charming Miss Dolly Ross, her performance being loudly acclaimed; and Miss Gladys Henderson was a dainty and bewitching Alice Fitzwarren, her songs affording the utmost pleasure. Mr. Jimmy Goode was admirable as Alderman Fitzwarren; and an irresistibly droll impersonation of Idle Jack was furnished by Mr. Bob Stevens. Mr. Billy Fauder was certainly droll as Caroline, the cook; and Messrs. Tew and Lea assisted materially in the prevailing merriment by their capital impersonations of Captain Salts and Billy Bobbs. Miss Nellie Mascott was an ideal Fairy; and Mr. Fred Preston appeared to advantage as Koko, Emperor of Morocco. Miss Lillian Devon was a meritorious Princess Zoharo of Morocco; and other rôles were sustained by Miss Ruth Beaumont, Barbendo, Miss Susie Marney, etc. Specialities were introduced by the Sisters Henderson, Sisters Beaumont, Barbendo, Tew and Lea, and the Dancing Durhams. The chorus and augmented orchestra were under the skilful direction of Mr. Hal E. Parker. Next week: Mr. Harry Joseph's pantomime, "Cinderella."

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Fred Willmot; R. M., Mr. Henry T. Downs.—Barton and Ashley top the bill here, and create much amusement with their comedy sketch, "Money Talks"; Jessie Broughton and Dennis Creedon furnish a musical entertainment par excellence; and a feature of the bill is the Western romance, entitled "The Devil's Elbow," presented with much eclat by John F. Traynor and company. Also billed are Tiny Arnold, comedienne; the Three Laurels, in acrobatic speciality; Charles Grantley, comedian; Miss Evelyn Taylor, comedienne; and the Hipposcope.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—G. M., Mr. Frank Allen; A. M., Mr. A. C. Laidler.—Charles Stevens occupies the premier position here, and this clever comedian, whose songs are so smartly rendered, is accorded a flattering reception nightly. A decided acquisition to the programme is Alberta Flahey, the eminent violinist, and a tenor who can sing, and their performance must be recorded as a rich musical treat. Heming and Free, comedy artistes; Cora Corina, in polyglot scena; David and Marriott, operatic vocalists; Hilda Mascot, dainty comedienne and dancer; and Bioscope complete the bill.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—G. M., Mr. Will White.—The vaudeville element here is sustained this week by Dane and Daley, comedy duo; and Bert Rose, in comedy songs; and pictures.

ST. GEORGE'S HALL.—G. M., Mr. Herbert Rogers.—This week: Neville Delmar, vocalist and light comedian; and pictures.

NEW PRINCESS THEATRE.—G. M., Mr. Terris Pounds.—This week: Chris Masters, vocalist; and pictures.

BILSTON.

HIPPODROME AND PICTURE HOUSE.—P., Edwin C. Jazon; R. M., Mr. E. Du Rocher.—This week: "I Defy the World," presented by Harry Bristow and Miss May Forde's company.—The company includes: Mr. Harry Bristow, Miss May Forde, Mr. E. Holland Day, Mr. Ernest Drake, Mr. Eric C. Wood, Miss Mary Asken, Miss Ada Harvey, and Miss Nellie Woodley.

WOOD'S PICTURE PALACE.—M., Mr. Thomas R. Wood.—This week: The Moxon Trio, Belle Leaburn, and pictures.

BIRKENHEAD.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole P. & M., Mr. W. W. Kelly; A. M., Mr. Herbert M. King; Mus. D., Mr. B. Srawley.—This week (once nightly): The Moody-Manners Opera Co., Ltd., in "Faust," "Carmen," "Elijah," "Il Trovatore," "The Bohemian Girl," "Samson and Delilah," and "The Lily of Killarney." Company includes: Mlle. De Lussan, Miss Florence Morden, Miss Raymonde Amy, Miss Olive Westwood, Mr. Aubrey Standing, Mr. William Anderson, Mr. Wilson Pembroke, Mr. Graham Marr, Mr. Flintoff Moore, and Mr. Albert Bowyer. T. M., Mr. J. M. Cate. Matinée, Thursday, 2.30.

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Walter de Frece; D. of Entertainments, Mr. E. Dottridge; R. M., Mr. Frank Weston. — This week (twice nightly): Messrs. Montgomery and Jazon present "The Babes in the Wood." The company includes: Miss Maud Beaumont, Miss Ruby Emmerson, Sisters St. Julien, Miss Lily Steele, Miss Lily C. Bell, Jack Terrie, Messrs. Tom and Neil, Clarence Turner, Billy Curzon, Laurie and Elsie, W. Rochester, Walter Buxton, A. Rochester. T. M., Mr. Fred Coles. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Sole P. & M., Mr. D. J. Clarke.—This week (twice nightly): Billy Williams, comedian; the Ascots, dancers; Edis and Lupino, in "A Gipsy's Wooing"; the Gothams, comedians and vocalists; Gladys Mavius, in songs and dances; Harry Clark, comedian; Rosie Archer, in songs and mimicry; Peter Donald and Meta Carson, in songs and stories; and pictures.

BIRMINGHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Theatre Royal (Birmingham), Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Tom B. Davis; G. M., Mr. Philip Rodway; A. M., Mr. F. Smith.—"Goody Two Shoes" is rapidly nearing the end of its run, but there is no lack of interest in this capital pantomime.

PRINCE OF WALES'.—P., Prince of Wales' Theatre (Birmingham), Ltd.; M. D., Messrs. Milton Bode and John Hart; A. M., Mr. Henry Johnson.—"The Sunshine Girl" has had a tremendous reception on its return visit, and, with Miss Phyllis Dare in her original part of Delia Dale, there has been no lack of appreciation for this sparkling musical comedy. Mr. George Gregory was capital as Foot, and Miss May Marton acquitted herself well in the difficult part of Brenda Blacker. The company all round is an excellent one. The vocal and instrumental music is very pleasing, and the production is admirably staged.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—P., Mr. Leon Salberg; A. M., Mr. W. T. Guest. — "Robinson Crusoe" still continues to attract crowded houses at every performance.

BORDESLEY PALACE.—P., Messrs. Moss' Empires, Ltd.; L., Mr. T. Morton Powell; A. M., Mr. H. E. Cox.—A capital detective drama, "Alias Jimmy Valentine," is staged here this week. Mr. Hamilton Stewart is very successful in the principal part, and he is supported by an excellent company.

ASTON THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Mr. Charles Barnard; M., Mr. Lewis Chapman. — Twice nightly; Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Millane present a powerful drama in "A White Slave." The plot is capitally worked, and there are many tense situations. Mr. Joseph Millane is very convincing as the hero, and Miss Mabel Rose makes a charming heroine. Mr. William Passmore and Mr. Oliver Seymour are also very prominent in the company, which is a strong one.

EMPIRE.—P., Messrs. Moss' Empires, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. W. H. Bebby; Asst. M., Mr. P. Witton. — Twice nightly: Mike S. Whallen tells Irish yarns in a very effective way, and his impromptu songs about members of the audience are very amusing; Ray and Zack are two clever comedy juveniles, introducing good comedy and dancing; Jack Lane, "the Yorkshire rustic at the piano," parodies rag-time very effectively; the Five X Rays have a smart knockabout act; Ad. Salges' artistic tableaux are very interesting; Tom E. Dean is a smart comedian; Phil and Nettie Peters are an amusing comedy duo; and Andrew McManus is a quaint Irish comedian.

GRAND.—P., Messrs. Moss' Empires; A. M., Mr. Gordon E. Craig; Asst. M., Mr. H. F. Coward.—Twice nightly: A most interesting entertainment is given by Miss Anna Eva Fay, in which second thought, mental telepathy, and thought-transference play a large part; Rinaldo plays the violin in masterly fashion; Joe Maddern and company have a diverting farce, "Too Many Darlings"; Vittorio and Georgetto are smart comedians with original methods; Adam Tomlinson has some amusing patter; Juggling Nelson has a clever entertainment; and Fred Weldon is successful as the "phonofiddledeoddity."

HIPPODROME. — P., New Hippodrome (Birmingham), Ltd.; M., Mr. Ben de Frece; R. M., Mr. H. Hamilton.—Twice nightly: Frederick Sylvester and company are novel handbalancers; Kenneth Lyle Quartette are capital instrumentalists and vocalists; Mooney and Holbien are a very amusing pair of Americans; Marriott Edgar is intertaining with his Dame impressons; Frank Mayo and company have an interesting sketch in "The Bargain."

GAIETY.—L. & M., Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; A. M., Mr. Walter Bellian.—Twice nightly: "The Little Stowaway" is an admirable sketch, containing a variety of good things in the way of drama, comedy, and song; a smart dancing and vocal turn is given by the Versatile Eight; Peakman and Walsh are skilful comedy jugglers; Dalkeith is a clever lightning artiste; Marguerite Payne sings with good effect, as also does Harry Tomlin; the Vednas are smart comedy knockabouts; and Vardon is a capital ventriloquist.

ASTON HIPPODROME.—P., Aston Hippodrome, Ltd.; D. of Entertainments, Mr. S. T. Newsome; A. M., Mr. T. H. Middleton.—Twice nightly: A powerful sketch, "Canada," by Harry M. Vernon's company tops a very strong bill; Harry Rignold and company are to the fore with a new sketch, entitled "Fido," of which a notice appears in another column; Leslie Brothers are very clever in "Music Mad"; Yacob, an ourang-outang, gives an interesting performance; Jim Cheetham is a clever whistler; Sims Woolley is a comedian with a distinct style; Ted Mercell is a smart comedian; and Camela Feo sings and dances pleasingly.

NEW PALACE.—P., Messrs. Moss' Empires, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. Geo. Anthony.—Twice nightly: Costello Brothers, comedy acrobats; Jack Francis, and Stanley Waring.

BISHOP AUCKLAND.

EDEN THEATRE.—L. & G. M., Mr. Chas. Elderton; B. M., Mr. F. Steels.—This week: Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Levy and J. E. Cardwell's company in "The Sleeping Beauty." The company includes: Messrs. Stanley Annison, Jackson Collis, Teddy Worth, Freddie Hackin, Alf E. Rick, Tom Cowley, Hughes and Allen, and Misses May L. Murray, Molly Rafferty, Marie Lumberg, Nellie Stuart, Lily Parkinson, May Lilian, and Kitty Rafferty.

HIPPODROME.—L., Messrs. the Standard Electric Theatre, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Frank W. Ogden Smith; R. M., Mr. H. Warren.—This week: Edith Tudora's Ponies, Darius, Bert Russell, the Sisters Gwalia, and pictures.

BLACKPOOL.

HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE.—G. M., Mr. Jno. R. Huddlestone.—This week (once nightly): Messrs. H. Montague Ashley and Campbell Goldsmid present "With Edged Tools." The company includes: Charles Hartopp, Fred Emery, Murray Yorke, Max Copland, Alfred Conway, George Brough, Campbell Goldsmid, Pattie Groves, Muriel Haydn, Edith Anton-Laing, and Maud Morton-Powell. T. M., Mr. H. Montague Ashley. Matinée, Wednesday, at 2 p.m. Next week: The Alexander Marsh Shakespearean company.

PALACE.—G. M., Mr. George H. Harrop; A. M., Mr. Fred Waller; Mus. D., Mr. Frank H. Jepson.—This week (once nightly): Campbell and Brady, novelty entertainers; the Christie Duo, comedians and dancers; Bessie Downes, rag-time artist; Winnie Wayne, singer; Minnie Paget, concertina soloist; Stuart Cleveland and company in "A Policeman and a Man"; Lloyd Morgan, comedian. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.30.

BLYTH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Mr. George Black; R. M., Mr. F. T. Todd.—This week: Mascot, educated horse; Carl Hague, ventriloquist; Rennie and Roxburgh, novelty musicians; and pictures.

EMPIRE ELECTRIC PALACE.—M. D., Mr. W. S. Shepherd.—This week: Rokby, musical eccentric; Olive Lizette, in ballad and descriptive song; and pictures.

BOLTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Bolton Theatre Co.; M. D., Mr. J. F. Elliston; A. M., Mr. John Moncur.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Robert Courtneidge presents "The Arcadians." The company includes: Mr. Dan Agar, Mr. George Hestor, Mr. H. Nelson Hancock, Mr. R. Gascoyne, Mr. Thomas A. Braidon, Mr. Reginald Harcourt, Mr. J. Jolly, Mr. W. Ryce, Mr. Robert Montgomery, Mr. Ivan Leslie, Miss Nellie Taylor, Miss Nellie Kavanagh, Miss Cecil O'Shea, Miss Ethel Rainford, Miss Madeleine Cortis, Miss Hazel Alexander, Miss Edith Drayson, Miss Cecil Carey, Miss Patricia Musgrave, Miss Maudie Ray, Mr. Hamilton Ryan, Mr. Fred Ives, and Miss Mary Powell. T. M., Mr. Alexander Telford. Matinée, Wednesday, at 2.30. Next week: "The Barrier."

GRAND THEATRE.—P., Bolton Theatre Co.; M. D., Mr. J. F. Elliston; A. M., Mr. Alf Booth; Mus. D., Mr. Charles Pearson.—This week (twice nightly): Messrs. Holland and Dean present "Aladdin." The company includes: Mabel Hind, Steane Louch, Jimmie Cozens, Dolly Hook, Poppie Holland, Frances Haskoll, Brothers Valdo, Gladys Corri, Fred Hutchings, Joe Lipton, Phyllis Lipton, Billy Button, Francesca, Little Emmie, Bessie Howarth, and Willie Cave. Matinées, Monday and Saturday, at 2.30.

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Walter de Frece; R. M., Mr. Arthur R. Harrison.—This week (twice nightly): Messrs. Dottridge and Longden present "Robinson Crusoe." The company includes: Miss Lily Edwards, Miss Gwen Lewis, Mr. E. Leslie Coupe, Mr. Arnold Richardson, Mr. H. Flockton Foster, Miss Vera Hind, Miss Lilian Mars, Messrs. Elton and Elma, Mr. Charles North, Miss Alice Watling, Mr. Donald Gilbert, Miss Flo Orchard, Miss Agnes Tongue, and Mr. John Canadian. T. M., Mr. Donald Gilbert. Matinée, Monday, at 2.30.

BOOTLE.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—P., Messrs. Pennington Estate Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Harry Pennington.—This week: Mr. Gar Kiddie's "Babes in the Wood." The company includes: Miss Eve May Rosslyn, Miss Marion Duncan, Mr. Dan Dawson, Mr. Dan Lyall, the Slaters, the Wee Sisters Wright, and Miss Lily King.

BOSCOMBE.

HIPPODROME.—P., South of England Hippodromes, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Walter de Frece; R. M., Mr. H. S. Charlton.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. John Tiller presents "Lively Lucerne." The cast includes: James Roue, May Blossom, Doris Cooke, Edwin Jaye, J. J. Dallas, Leslie Cliff, Jack Thomson, Joe Thomson, Elizabeth Wieland, and Joe Desmond. Matinée, Wednesday, 2.30.

BOURNEMOUTH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole P., Messrs. David Allen and Sons; R. M., Mr. Hubert Dunbar.—This week (once nightly): Messrs. Alban B. Limpus and Cecile Barclay present "The Turning Point." The company includes: Rupert Lister, Herbert Rea, Charles Fancourt, F. Owen Chambers, George Barran, Campbell Beaver, A. Mayne, Alec Street, Godfrey May, Alfred Manners, A. Wingood, Maud Garth, Mary Forrester, A. Vansittart, Cecile Barclay. T. M., Mr. Alban B. Limpus. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.45. Next week: "Little Miss Llewelyn."

WINTER GARDENS.—G. M., Mr. Dan Godfrey; Asst. & B. M., Mr. Henry Woodard; S., Mr. F. L. Parsons.—This week: The Municipal Orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Dan Godfrey, Hon. R.A.M. Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, at 3 and 8. Monday and Saturday at 8. Each evening, and

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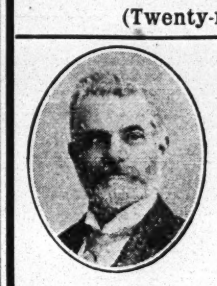

COPY OF TESTIMONIAL.

Palace Theatre, Bordesley, Birmingham.
Feb. 7, 1913.

T. HARRIS, Esq.,
10, Dean Street, W.

DEAR MR. HARRIS,

The cloaks duly came to hand, and for which my thanks. You will be pleased to know that through your good work the frocks have the appearance of an entirely new wardrobe, and are the admiration of the show.

I shall send you other things I want done in the course of a week, when you can let me have the account.

My best and kindest wishes and regards.

Yours very truly,
JOHN HALPIN.

T. Harris

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Tuesday and Friday afternoon, J. H. Scotland, basso; Little Olive Melba, child vocalist and mimic. Wednesday, at 3 and 7.15, grand concert, conducted by Sir Henry J. Wood and Mr. Dan Godfrey; Miss Maude Newton, soprano; Miss Mabel Adams, contralto; Miss Marjorie Stone, soprano; Little Olive Melba, child vocalist and mimi; J. H. Scotland, basso; Denis O'Neil, Irish singer; Charles Conyers, humorist and ventriloquist; the Band of the 7th Hants, and the Municipal Orchestra. Saturday, at 3, Melsa, violinist; vocalist, Mlle. Sophie Barrand, soprano.

BRADFORD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Mr. John Hart; M., Mr. J. Richardson.—To-night (Saturday) sees the final performance of Mr. Hart's brilliant pantomime, "The House that Jack Built."

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—L., Mr. Francis Laidler; G. M., Mr. N. Hepworth; A. M., Mr. F. Yearsley.—On last Friday evening Mr. Reg. Bolton, the popular Peter, the Page, of Mr. Laidler's most successful pantomime, "Cinderella," had a well-merited bumper house for his complimentary benefit, and on Saturday night great enthusiasm prevailed amongst the crowded audience present at the final performance of the pantomime, the customary "greetings" and "farewells" being heartily expressed. On Monday night Miss Florrie Forde presented her "twice-nightly" pantomime, "The Babes in the Wood," and in her dashing rôle of Robin Hood she has the support of the capital comedian, Mr. Gilbert Payne, as Sammy, the Page, Victor and Louis as the Robbers, Miss Stella Esdaile as the dainty Maid Marion, Mr. Arthur Stratton as Baron Stoney, Mr. Austin Lenton as Nurse Merryweather, and Mr. Frank Sumner as Friar Tuck, all of whom, in their impersonations of real merit, add interest to the brightly written and capitally staged little pantomime, which is presented in eight scenes. A charming bevy of prettily costumed ladies fill the minor parts in the production, which is well received, and which is calculated to add materially to Miss Forde's well-won laurels. The augmented orchestra and chorus are features under the direction of Mr. Orlando Powell.

THE EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. Percival Craig.—There is a fine programme here, in which Whit Cunliffe, the topical light comedian, with capital songs, is to the fore. Alice Wyatt, fresh from her pantomime success, has had a cordial reception as a comedienne; a sparkling mélange of mirth and melody is presented by the Merry Harlequinaders; and there is a striking novelty of a football match on cycles cleverly presented by the Paulhan team. The Keppels are artistic vocalists; in "The Adventures of a Happy Tramp" Howard and Harris are particularly quaint; Tom Costello is here again with songs, combining pathos with humour; there is an immense amount of fun in the turn by the boxing comedians, the Brothers Curran; and the pictures are good.

THE PALACE.—L., Mr. F. Macnaghten; M., Mr. Will A. Jackson.—Mr. Frank F. Street presents here this week another Wild West dramatic sketch, viz., "The Gun Fighter," into which is interwoven a romantic love story, told with picturesque effects and plenty of thrills; the acting, too, is excellent. There is some clever head-balancing by Paul and Fred Wille. "The System" is an amusing sketch presented by W. Blake and Maud Granby; comedy dispensed by Johnny Dwyer and by Tom Reno amuses the audience; Margaret Doris presents a cleverly trained troupe of performing dogs, and their football efforts are very funny; Collan and Emery, Billy McIvor, and Mignon and Frasettis contribute turns of much acceptance to the excellent programme; and the Captain Scott Memorial service pictures are very fine.

BRIGHTON.

THEATRE ROYAL. — P., Brighton Theatre Royal, Ltd.; M., Mr. Lawson Lambert. — Mr. George Dance's company is here this week with "The Sunshine Girl." Miss Mysie Devine makes a charming and graceful Delia Dale; Mr. Jack Morrison gives an admirable impersonation of Lord Bicester; Miss Dorothy Cooper is an attractive Lady Rosabelle; Miss Jennie Richards makes an entertaining Brenda Blacker; Miss Winifred Volt is a pleasing Marie; and unbounded fun is afforded by Mr. Percy Cahill as Commodore Parker and Mr. Theodore Leonard as Floot. The chorus and orchestra are effective under the direction of Mr. Albert Vernon.

GRAND THEATRE.—L. & M. D., Mr. Ernest Gates; G. M., Mr. Ben Court.—"'Mid Pleasures and Palaces" occupies the boards here. Mr. C. Watson Mill gives an admirable enactment of Roual; Miss Joan Ellis is a captivating Iroma; Mr. Edward E. Louis is forcible as the scheming Roubert le Grand, whose little son Phillipe has a pleasing exponent in Miss Myra Eyton; Mr. Horace A. Whitmee achieves great success as Capt. Derrick; Mr. Villiers Stanley is well placed as Dubosque, and Mr. Richard Oliver is amusing as Henri de Sirrac.

HIPPODROME.—M., Mr. W. H. Boardman.—The following are here this week:—Wish Wynne, in clever character studies; Guy Standing and company in the sketch "The Blackmailer"; Morny Cash, "the Lancashire Lad," a diverting comedian; We Two, in a musical entertainment; Jean and Josie, in the speciality, "The Crocodile and the Lizard"; Guest and Newlyn, comedians; Leslie Harris, entertainer at the piano; and the Eight Football Skating Girls.

WEST PIER THEATRE. — S., Mr. A. W. Scholey.—Mr. Philip Braham's company, "The March Hares," is here this week. The artistes include: Messrs. Davy Burnaby, John Latham, Bernard Ansell, the Misses Maud Aston, Fay Lonnen, Bijou Dreno, and Mr. Philip Braham.

PALACE PIER THEATRE.—M., Mr. Gilbert Laye.—Under the direction of Mr. Frederick Castleman, "The Blindness of Virtue," is here this week. Mr. Harold Weston makes a manly Rev. Harry Pemberton; Mr. Harold West gives a good impersonation of the Hon. Archibald Graham; Miss Mary Lewin Mannering is a charming Effie Pemberton; Miss Theresa Osborne is well placed as Mrs. Pemberton; Miss Amy Loraine submits a clever character study as Cookie; Mr. Fred Chesterton is successful as the sporting gardner, Collins; Miss Elme Kemp makes a sympathetic Mary Ann; and Miss Vida Varrell is effective as Mrs. Lemmins.

COURT THEATRE.—P., Brighton Court Theatre, Ltd.; M. D., Mrs. M. Barrasford; M., Mr. H. R. Lynn.—This week (twice nightly): Bert Lloyd presents "What a Pal." Sybil Janette, comedienne and dancer; Gus Gauntlett, singer and dancer; pictures. Matinées, Thursday, 3.

BRISTOL.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—P. & M., The Representatives of the late Mr. J. M. Chute; R. M. & T., Mr. J. Ellis Miller; Mus. D., Mr. G. R. Chapman.—Success still attends Mr. Tom B. Davis's pantomime, "Dick Whittington," at this popular and well-appointed theatre. Several of the principals have new songs which go remarkably well. One of the most popular is Miss Winifred Ward's soldier song, "The bird-cage walk," which is always sure of an encore. "Who were you with last night?" is also capitally rendered by Miss Ward. Mr. Tom Conway scores a decided success with his patter song, "Woolloomooloo." Another recent success is "Waiting for the Robert E. Lee," a capital rag-time ditty sung by Miss Winifred Ward and Miss Norah Guy, who are assisted by the Olympian Quartette in an effective dance. Another rag-time song, "I want to be in Dixie" is capitally rendered by Miss Norah Guy, and Miss Gwladys Anstey sings "My heart is with you to-night" with pleasing expression. Miss Beatrice Collier (the Princess) and Mr. William Pringle (Idle Jack) are much applauded for their clever dance; as also are Miss Collier and Mr. Jack Hurst (the Cat) for their excellent eccentric dance à la Apache.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Mrs. Emma Carpenter; G. M., Mr. Fred W. Carpenter; R. M., Mr. Henry C. Alty; Mus. D., Mr. Edwin Jacobs.—"Cinderella" continues to fill the house at this historic theatre. The pantomime is staged very effectively, the scenery is cleverly painted, and is very pretty throughout, and the dresses are exceptionally good and tasteful. The principals are all well placed in their respective parts, the ballet does good work, and the speciality dances by the De Vere Quartette are always attractive. There are plenty of good songs, and lots of comic business by the comedians.

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Oswald Stoll; R. M., Mr. N. Preston-Hilary; A. M., Mr. F. S. Green; Mus. D., Mr Howard W. Galpin.—Happy Fanny Fields is here for the week, and bids well to pack the house at each performance. She has some capital songs, is as vivacious as ever, dances with her accustomed energy, and on Monday evening had a lot of floral offerings. Alfred Lester, of "Merry and Bright" fame, scores with his burlesque, "A Restaurant Episode." Molly Wells, who is accompanied on the piano by Frank Mayban, sings some pleasing songs in piquant style. Tom Woottwell, comedian, does well with "Watching the barges go by." Lydia and Amelys present an exceptionally clever exposition of Parisian whirlwind dancing. Lea Manti is an expert solo whistler. Hinton and Wooton do some clever trick work on cycles, including a football act. P. T. Selbit presents his latest mystery, "Shadow People," which proves to be both interesting and perplexing; and pictures conclude. Miss May De Sousa is announced to appear at the Thursday and Saturday matinées in place of Miss Fanny Fields.

EMPIRE.—R. M., Mr. Henry Lucas; Mus. D., Mr. Louis Gourvitch.—H. J. Corner and Leo Ward successfully present their well-staged dramatic sketch, "1,000 to 1 Against," an exciting adventure in the life of Dick Rutherford, cracksman. The Imperial Troupe of Trick Cyclists (five in number) do a smart act; the Brothers Ford do well with their singing and dancing act; Sisi and Fifi please with their novel and eccentric act, "Fighting Against Water"; Bertha May is a pleasing and accomplished vocalist; Edie Payne entertains with violin solos and impersonations of well-known comedians; Walton and Lester, the "world's worst wizards," amuse with comic juggling, etc.; and Lottie Stone's Eight Pyjama Girls score with their novel dancing act. Pictures conclude.

BEDMINSTER HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Walter de Frece; R. M., Mr. A. J. Carter; Mus. D., Mr. Maitland de Lacy.—Le Roy, Talma, and Bosco head the bill, and very successfully present their interesting and weirdly startling spectacle of magical acts and illusions; Matthews and Haming please with their comedy speciality; Jack Barlow has a fine bass voice, his songs are well selected, and he accompanies himself on the piano; Ben Albert, comedian, is appreciated; Lilian Carter is a pleasing and accomplished soprano vocalist; the Brothers Leo, comedians, are applauded for their efforts; Pedro and Pescador, a clever equilibrist, and a double-somersaulting dog, are responsible for a smart turn; and interesting pictures conclude. A special matinée is announced for Wednesday, the 26th inst., in aid of the Lord Mayor's Hospital Fund.

LIVERMORE'S PALACE.—M., Mr. Horace Livermore; Mus. D., Mr. Frederic Fey.—The special Bioscope picture for this week depicts an interesting drama, "The Stolen Symphony." Hamilton's excursions and diorama of a "Tour Through Europe" is also included in the entertainment, and there are also numerous interesting and comic pictures shown by the Bioscope. The solo vocalists for the week are Miss Alsie Morgan, mezzo-soprano; Miss Ada Christine, soprano; and Mr. Andrew Beer, tenor.

BROUGHTON.

VICTORIA THEATRE.—Sole P., Messrs. J. P. Moore and Montague Beaudyn; M., Mr. Arthur Collingwood.—Mr. Montague Beaudyn's company is playing (twice nightly) "It's Never too Late to Mend." The company includes: Mr. J. Leon Courtville, Mr. Fred M. Hood, Mr. A. R. Harper, Mr. A. W. Alton, Mr. George Overs, Mr. Jack Darnley, Mr. Arthur Britton, Mr. A. A. Tomlin, Mr. Chas. Curren, Mr. Arthur Ancart, Mr. R. Weldon, Mr. R. C. Clarke, Mr. Arthur Pringle, Mr A. S. Mitchell, Miss Cissie St. Elmo, Miss Phyllis Rae, Miss Marion Keith, and Miss Irene Munro.

BURNLEY.

VICTORIA OPERA HOUSE, LTD.—M. D., Mr. W. C. Horner.—This week: Louis Meyer presents "The Woman in the Case." Company includes: Miss Olive Warne, Miss Rita Johnson, Miss Lydia Busch, Miss Stewart Dawson, Mr. Edward Harrison, Mr. Arthur Bell, Mr. George Percy, Mr. Carr Davenport, Mr. Peter P. Millar, Mr. Fredk. Starr, Mr. H. A. Stafford, Mr. Henry Walton, and Mr. Percy Hemm. Above is preceded by "The Silver Medal." T. M., Mr. Edward Harrison. Next week: "The Arcadians."

EMPIRE.—M. D., Mr. W. C. Horner.—This week (twice nightly): Gerald Griffin and Co., in "Other People's Money." Cast includes: Gerald Griffin, Miss Agnes Imlay, Miss Babs Stuart, Howard L. Tracy, Ed. Duford. Also the Two Cairos, in comedy; Flying Julians, gymnasts; Fred Layton, comedian; Harold Baker, comedian; Reg. Brown, comedian; Magini and his violin.

PALACE.—P., Palace Theatre and Hippodrome (Burnley), Ltd.; G. M., Mr. Frank Macnaghten; R. M., Mr. J. Rintoul.—This week (twice nightly): Marie Schulz, in song scena; P. T. Selbit's "Spirit Paintings"; Cavollotti Bros., instrumentalists; Spissell Bros. and company, acrobats; Wilson Hallett, entertainer; La Freya, in artistic visions; Agnes Tina, mimic; P. T. Selbit's "The Strongest Cheese on Earth"; and pictures.

BURSLEM.

THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—Sole Owners, Messrs. James P. Moore and Montague Beaudyn; R. M., Mr. Ernest G. Lord.—This week (once nightly): On Wednesday and Thursday "The Two Orphans" will be presented, and on Friday and Saturday "The Wickedness of a Woman."

BURTON-ON-TRENT.

OPERA HOUSE.—P., Mr. H. G. Dudley Bennett; B. M., Mr. E. de Hague Body.—This week (once nightly): Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company in "The Prairie Outlaw." The cast includes: Mr. George Belmore, Mr. Terry Davis, Mr. Edward Bikker, Mr. Herbert Sydney, Mr. Hyland T. O'Shea, Mr. George Scully, Mr. F. Wright, Great Star, Mr. J. Jones, Running Elk, Mr. F. Campion, Miss Millie Lorraine, Miss Nellie Masterson, Miss Nina Blake Adams. T. M., Mr. Edward Bikker. Next week, "Improper Peter."

BURY (Lancs.).

HIPPODROME.—P., William Broadhead and Son; R. A. M., Mr. Ernest Sims. — This week (twice nightly): Zella Vondi and Co., in musical pot-pourri; Alvera, trick cyclist; Eileen Hall, vocalist; Frank Melvin; Sydd and Symitt, singers and dancers; Pat Lynch, dancer; Arthur Slater, whistler.

BUXTON.

OPERA HOUSE.—P., The Buxton Gardens Co., Ltd.; M. and S., Mr. F. T. Boucher.—This week (Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday): Mr. Derwent Hall Caine presents "The Manxman." The cast includes: Messrs. Percy Wentworth, Harold Clare, Lionel Balmont, Herbert Roxby, Herbert Dean, George Warde, R. C. Howe, Charles Brooke, Derwent Hall Caine, Misses Leta Scarlet, Dora Evans, Florrie Hall, Dorothy Stephen, and Nancy Esme. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday: Mr. Thorpe-Maine presents "Improper Peter." The cast includes: Messrs. Cyril Austen-Lee, Thorpe Maine, Ned Llewellyn, Lennox Kindall, Charles Kent Francis, Charles Hersee, Victor George, Thomas Barry, Misses Winifred Gardner, Margaret Dolomore, Nellie Beryl, Bessie Jewell, Margaret Dennison, Violet Masters, and Beryl Hamilton. Mus. D., Mr. Fred Goddard.

HIPPODROME.—L. and M., Mr. Allan Milton.—This week: The Poncherry troupe of wire performers, etc.; Bosanquet, "the human violin"; Miss Vichy Waters, in Scotch comedy songs; and pictures. Matinées, Wednesday and Saturday. Mus. D., Mr. William le Roy.

CAMBRIDGE.

NEW THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. W. B. Redfern. J.P., D.L.—This week (Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday matinée): Mr. N. Thorpe Mayne's company, in "Improper Peter." The company includes: Messrs. Cyril Austin-Lee, N. Thorpe Mayne, Ned Llewellyn, Lennox Rashleigh, Fred Wallis, Charles Kent Francis, Victor George and Thomas Barry, Misses Beryl Hamilton, Violet Masters, Bessie Jewell, Margaret Dennison, Nellie Beryl, Margaret Dolomore, and Winifred Gardner. Preceded by "The Raffle-ing of Sherlock Holmes," played by Messrs. Thorpe Mayne and Ned Llewellyn, Charles Kent Francis and Charles Hersee. On Thursday, Friday, and Saturday matinée: Miss Horniman's company, in repertoire—Thursday and Saturday evening, "The Pigeon"; Friday evening, "The New Sin."

EMPIRE.—P., Messrs. Hawkins and Frank; M., Mrs. Hawkins; Mus. D., Mr. Davis.—This week (twice nightly): Carte and Mirtziana, equilibrist act; Olive Marshall, and electric clubs; Gladys Hooley, violinist; Arthur Stevens, comedian; Stylo Duo, jugglers; and pictures.

GUILDHALL.—Mme. Melba appeared here on Wednesday evening with a concert party, including Miss Una Bourne, Mr. Edmund Burke, and M. Marcel Moyse. At the piano, Professor Lapierre. The entertainment was under the direction of Messrs. Miller and Son.

CANTERBURY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—D., Mr. William Holland. —This week (once nightly): On Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday: Mr. George Gordon and company in "Midnight London"; on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, "The Scarlet Clue." The company includes: Mr. George Gordon, Mr. Dan Omagh, Mr. H. Lazarus, Mr. J. Clarence, Mr. Claude Morton, Mr. Guy Desmond, Mr. F. Bubbles, Miss Glad Thorpe, Miss L. Palmer, Miss J. Grein, Miss A. Mather, Miss M. Dean, Miss M. Leyton, Little Florrie Booth, Miss Grace Warner. T. M., Mr. George Gordon. Next week: "Sexton Blake, Detective."

EMPIRE.—L., Mr. S. Lipman; M., Mr. Hugh Lauri.—This week: Zenora, jumper and equilibrist; The Barclays, comedy duo; the Sisters Lloyd, in song and dances; Ella Roma, comedienne; Jimmy Tellis, comedian; Jack Gibbs, comedian; and pictures.

CARDIFF.

NEW THEATRE.—Sole P. & M., Mr. Robert Redford; Mus. D., Mr. Ambrose Mabbett.—This week (once nightly): Mr. George Edwardes presents "The Dollar Princess," Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday; Thursday, Friday, Saturday matinée and evening, "The Merry Widow." The company includes: Mr. H. Sinclair Cotter, Mr. Tom Redmond, Mr. Clifton Hamilton, Mr. Ripley Evans, Mr. Clifford Seyler, Mr. Ernest Climpson, Mr. Haydn Scott, Mr. William Allison, Mr. Fred Maguire, Miss Carda Walker, Miss Florence Ivy, Miss Hilda Laine, Miss Ivy Durn, Miss Mae Jackson, Miss Marie Kappey, Miss Kathleen Storr, Miss May Lee, Miss Lucie Donati, Miss Freda Large, Miss Effie Mann. T. M., Mr. Gifford Stacey. Matinée, Saturday, "The Merry Widow," at 2.

THEATRE ROYAL.—R. M., Mr. Arthur Beaufort.—This week (once nightly): Monday, Tuesday, and Saturday, Mr. Ernest R. Abbott presents "The Sins of the Rich"; Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, "Sapho." The company includes: Mr. John Johnston, Mr. R. Edmonstone, Mr. Stephen Crossley, Mr. Edwin Keene, Mr. Philip Layton, Mr. W. H. Davis-Brown, Mr. Cecil Bent, Mr. D. Pentland, Mr. Charles Tring, Mr. H. Philipps, Mr. Ivor C. Gould, Mr. H. Beale, Isabel Singleton, Miss Winifred Rutland, Miss Mattie Everett, Miss Mary Douglas, Miss Rose Duncan, Miss Cecile Rene, Miss E. Crowther, Miss Ada Abbott. Next week: "Aladdin."

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Frank Allen; A. M., Mr. Herbert J. Taylor.—This week (twice nightly): Spiegler, and his Quintette of Musicians; Bella and Bijou, society entertainers; Billy French, wooden shoe dancer; Millie Doris, comedy artiste; Delevines, in "The Wicked Witch's Wish"; Archie Naish, entertainer; Jack Marks, juvenile comedian; Julian Mack, talking dame; the Daunton-Shaw Troupe, trick cyclists; pictures.

CARLISLE.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—G. M., Mr. Thomas France; R. M., Mr. Harry Armstrong.—This week (once nightly, and Saturday matinée, 2.30): Mr. Herbert Ralland presents "The Girl in the Train." The company includes: Mr. Bay Russell, Mr. Percy Watson, Mr. F. W. Bowes, Mr. C. F. Cooke, Mr. Stafford Dickens, Mr. Griffin Campion, Mr. Cecil Moylan, Mr. Philip Cooper, Miss Rosa Burchell, Miss Winnie Hall, Miss Dagmar Dargue, Miss Ethel Oliver. T. M., Mr. Bay Russell. Next week: "The Chocolate Soldier."

PALACE THEATRE.—P., Mr. Frank Macnaghten; M., Mr. J. D. Askew.—This week (twice nightly): Alice Raymond and her players present "A Night in Egypt"; Lytton and De Silva, duettists; the Oran Trio, gymnasts; Haydee's miniature vaudeville theatre; Woodhouse and Wells, comedians and dancers; Four Astors, singers and dancers; Vera Caine; Three Brothers Reigel, clowns; and pictures.

CASTLEFORD.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Messrs. Charles Gadsby and Co.; B.M., Mr. Harry Masterman. This week (once nightly): Green and Winsford present "The Pride of the Prairie." The company includes: Graham Winsford, William Hayes, Stephen E. Scanlan, Morton Wright, Arthur Duval, Harry Sidney, Henry Goodier, C. Young Fixoit, Harold Downes, J. J. Stadden, G. Leslie Buxton, Walter Hicks, Cecil Harding, Ling Treherne, Leonard Gardener, Frank Shirley, Jack Entwistle, Ben Batty, Ernest Williams, Henry Hurst, Fred Horning, Julius Werner, Alfred Sooper, Etta Delamere, Elsie Dene, Gwendoline Jesson, and Ethel Bickham. T. M., Mr. Stephen E. Scanlan.

QUEEN'S.—P., Castleford Queen's Theatre Co., Ltd.; M. D., Messrs. Beanland and Emerson.—This week (once nightly; pictures matinées, Wednesday and Saturday): The O'Mahonys, singers; Bert Lawrie and his page, in burlesque impressions; and pictures.

CHATHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Messrs. C. and L. B. Barnard; A. M., Mr. Lionel Barnard; Mus. D., Mr. Albert E. Vicary.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Oswald Cray presents "The Mormon and his Wives." The company includes: Oswald Cray, Clifton Earle, William H. Burton, Henry H. Hughes, Bert H. Reynolds, Harold Stephens, Leslie Howard, Leonard H. Rooke, G. W. Wright, Ernest A. Duval, Charles Fields, Great Leap, Fleet Deer, Fearless Fox, Mighty Moon, Sharp Spear, Great Bull, Scalp Hunter, Helen Lowther, Pattie Dene, Aimee Grattan Clyndes, Mamie Reindeer, Sybil Hare. Matinée, Wednesday, at 2.30.

BARNARD'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—This week (twice nightly): E. D. Nicholls and company, in "Dare-Devil Dripping"; Eddie Walker, comedian; Milner and Storey, vaudeville duo; Jack Egan and his Oo-La Girls, American entertainers; the Johnstons, balancers and jugglers; Eva Jesson, comedienne; the Westwoods, cyclists; pictures.

EMPIRE.—P., Chatham Empire Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.; Joint M. D., Mr. Oswald Stoll and Alderman H. E. Davis, C.C., J.P.; M., Mr. Lionel Melville.—This week (twice nightly): Johnson Clark, ventriloquist; Christine Roy, soprano; Solo, in "A Lesson in Temperance; or, Too Full for Words"; Bugler Carr, equilibrist; Lorna and Toots Pounds, Australian mimics; Briff, Braff, and Broff, comedy tumblers; the Three Collegians present "A Patchwork of Music and Song."

CHELTENHAM.

THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—G. M., Mr. H. Oswald Redford.—This week: Mr. Max Allen's company, in "Hindle Wakes," including Mr. Hodgson Taylor, Mr. J. Milne Taylor, Miss Betty Fairfax, Miss Bessie Bedford, Miss Ethel Hardacre, Miss Dorothy Dewhurst, Mr. Keith Kenneth, Mr. Will Norman, and Miss Margaret Anderson. Preceded by "A Sister's Honour," monologue, by Miss Dorothy Dewhurst. Next week: "The Bear-Leaders."

THEATRE OF VARIETIES AND CINEMA DE LUXE.—M., Mr. E. W. Carlton.—This week: Miss Daisy Hicks, comedienne; and pictures.

POOLE'S PICTURE PALACE.—M., Mr. Shakspere Shenton.—This week: Seigel and Fields, comedians; Paul Herma, the modern Hercules; and pictures.

TEWKESBURY, SHENTON'S PICTURE PALACE.—M., Mr. Roy Shenton.—This week: Will Jordan and Will Shannon, rag-time exponents, and pictures.

CHESTERFIELD.

HIPPODROME.—P., Hippodrome (Chesterfield), Ltd.; G. M., Mr. F. R. Sargisson.—This week (twice nightly): Drawee, Hambo and Frisco, in "Fun at the Hottentot Hotel"; Fanny Humber, instrumentalist; Little Peter Pan, singer and dancer; Eddy Lyle and big brother Larrie, comedians; L'Etoile, in posing act; Lestree, juggler; Hanlon Carl's Troupe, trapeze artistes; and pictures.

CLYDEBANK.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Sole P., Mr. A. E. Pickard; S., Mr. Guy E. Dunning; B. M., Mr. W. Sinclair; R. M., Major George Mitchell.—This week (twice nightly): Will Watt, the new J.P.; Harry Hall, comedian; Dollie Du Barrie, comedienne; Phineas and Ada, equilibrists; Valley and Dale, comedians; and pictures.

COLCHESTER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Mr. Chas. Macdona; L. & M., Mr. F. Graham Macdona.—This week (once nightly, and Saturday matinée, 2.30): "The Cattle Thief." The cast includes: Mr. Paul Neville, Mr. Wallie Bishop, Mr. Willie Moss, Mr. Terry McGovern, Mr. Edgar J. Coyne, Mr. Harry Leslie, Mr. F. Drury, Mr. Albert Paine, Mr. Frank West, Mr. J. Ashford, Mr. J. Copeland, Mr. J. Webb, Mr. W. Hilton, Mr. W. Henry, Mr. W. Wicks, Mr. S. Turner, Miss Ethel Wynne Matthews, Miss Dora Marriott, and Miss Nellie Statham. Next week: "The Quaker Girl."

HIPPODROME.—P., Hippodrome (Colchester), Ltd; M. D., Mr. Walter de Frece; M., Mr. C. Turner Hallett.—This week (twice nightly): Messrs. Sidney Bransgrove and N. C. Slaughter present "The Flag Lieutenant." The cast includes: Mr. George Mallett, Mr. Edward Mervyn, Mr. Hastings Lynn, Mr. P. Ramsey Forman, Mr. Henry Wolston, Mr. Horace Edward, Mr. Oswald Strong, Mr. W. Drake, Mr. George Massden, Mr. H. Hart, Mr. Victor R. C. Moors, Mr. John Camp, Mr. Yeldham, Mr. Ellis Dee, Mr. John Ridley, Mr. Percy Ramsay, Mr. Chas. V. Wallace, Mr. Wallace Clough, Mr. George Graves, Miss Laura Hanson, Miss Winifred Vallant, Miss Gladys Storey, Miss Stella Leigh, and Miss Rosalind Ross.

CONSETT.

NEW TOWN HALL. — This week (twice nightly): Dorset and Russell, musicians; the Cowpers, club manipulators; and pictures.

ROYAL PICTURE HOUSE.—L., Smart and Todd.—This week (twice nightly): Butt and Ward, duettists; Bros. Walton, comedians; and pictures.

COVENTRY.

OPERA HOUSE.—This week: Mr. Dance's company, in "The Quaker Girl."

HIPPODROME.—M., Mr. S. T. Newsome; R. M., Mr. G. E. Wright.—This week: The Two Anartos, P. J. Gillen's company in the sketch, "Rogers," Chrystal and Saville, Stelling and Reville, Queenie May, Le Burl, Violando Martin, and Miss Lily Zena.

CREWE.

NEW THEATRE.—L. & M., Mr. H. G. Dudley Bennett; R. M., Mr. L. F. Testot.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Frederick Melville presents "The Monk and the Woman." The company includes: Messrs. R. Adair, J. Manville, A. Nightingale, M. St. John, H. Callingford, L. Thackeray, S. Marsh, F. Maurice, R. Amble, L. Barton, R. Raynor, C. Olive, L. Mannering, V. Loraine, C. Ferguson, H. Morland, F. Barrington, F. Barclay, Misses Mary Pemberton, Margaret Tueskie, Rita Rothwell, Marie Stella, and Alice Mosley. Next week: "The Prairie Outlaw."

CO-OPERATIVE HALL.—L., Messrs. Hamilton and Hughes; R. M., Mr. W. C. Burns.—This week (twice nightly): The Fuji Troupe, Japanese equilibrists; Fred Hunt, comedian; Le Hurst, ventriloquist; Little Ivy Stephens, comedienne and dancer; and pictures.

CROYDON.

GRAND.—M. D., Messrs. Dick Adams and Ernest Archer; Mus. D., Mr. H. E. J. Nation. — This week (once nightly): Mr. George Edwardes presents "Gipsy Love." The company includes: Mr. Peter A Gawthorne, Mr. Norman Greene, Mr. Arthur Brooke, Mr. Louis Bradfield, jun., Mr. Alfred Henri, Mr. Arthur R. Jenner, Mr. Cameron Carr, Mr. Lionel Victor, Miss Mary Ridley, Miss Connie St. Clair, Miss Violet Vivian, Miss Mabel Hirst, Miss Haudie Andrews, Miss Maggie Jarvis. T. M., Mr. Percy J. Purdey. Matinée, Wednesday, at 2.30. Next week: "Monte Cristo."

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Charles Gulliver; M., Mr. Alfred Powley; Mus. D., Mr. Len Trevor.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. H. G. Pélissier's company, the Follies. The company includes: Mr. H. Pélissier, Miss Fay Compton, Mr. Dan Everard, Miss Doris Vane, Mr. Douglas MacLaren, Miss Daisy Fisher, Mr. Bryce Wilson, Miss Margaret Woolmer, Mr. Herbert Mason, Mr. Lewis Sydney, and "Ben." Matinée, Wednesday, 2.30. Next week: "Our Flat."

EMPIRE PALACE OF VARIETIES.—M. D., Mr. Charles Gulliver; M., Mr. Eustace Jay; Mus. D., Mr. Leslie Russell. — This week (twice nightly): Lily Hayes, Paley Jones, Barnard's Marionettes, Ella Shields, Sam Mayo, Nelson Trio, Marguerite Ismay and Girls, Arthur Ferris, Bioscope pictures, and Lew Lake's company, in "The Rib-nosed Baboon." The cast includes: Harry Roberts, Harry Lavers, Ernest Webb, Harry Morris, Richard Lomas, Maggie Allwood, Charley Sequin, Bob Morris, and Lew Lake.

DARLINGTON.

ROYAL.—L. & M., Mr. James Bell; A. M., Mr. L. P. Prosser. — This week (twice nightly, and Wednesday matinée, 2.30). — Arthur Roberts and Répertoire company present "H.M.S. Robertus II.," preceded each evening by one of the following, "Importance of Being Another Man's Wife," "Girl Who Lost Her Honeymoon," "Till Sunday." The company includes: Arthur Roberts, Harry J. Worth, Miss Norton, Miss Anderson, Miss Toft, C. Agnew, Miss Townshend, Miss Leverne, Miss Stevens, E. Clements, and E. Sykes. T. M., Mr. H. J. Worth. Next week: "Peggy."

HIPPODROME AND PALACE OF VARIETIES.—L. & M., Signor Pepi; R. M., Mr. Sidney B. Stringer.—This week (twice nightly): Mrs. W. Watson's pantomime, "Little Jack Horner." The cast includes: Etty Waldron, Maimie Ellis, Ada Sinclair, May Dinsdale, Olive Sinclair, Maud Naylor, Dorothy Dell, May Slater, Elsie May, Joe Waldron, Franklin Miles, Doyle and Massey, Wally Gilbert, Mme. Louie Gilbert, Bert Taylor, J. Hughes, Cliff Dacre, and Billy Waldron. Next week: "The Chocolate Soldier."

DARWEN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Darwen Theatre Royal Co.; G. M., Mr. Thomas Baker; Mus. D., Mr. E. T. De Banzie.—This week (twice nightly): Fred Karno's company, in "The Hydro"; Leone Dixon, dancer; Takase, illusionist; Jack and Willie, acrobats; Lloyd and Barwick, comedy duo; Dandy Billy and dog; Ted Waite, comedian; and pictures.

PUBLIC HALL.—L., Messrs. Riding, Hardcastle, and Rawlinson; M., Mr. J. D. Rawlinson. —This week (twice nightly): Martellee Trio of musicians; Georgina Ellison, comedienne and dancer; and pictures.

ALBERT HALL.—P., Messrs. Bradley and Hindle.—This week (twice nightly): Walter Ford, comedian; Lily Currie, chorus singer; and pictures.

DERBY.

GRAND.—P. and M., Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; A. M., Mr. Chas. Denley; Asst. M., Mr. J. B. Torr. —This week: "Miss Hook of Holland," by Messrs. F. Leslie Moreton and Guyton Heath's company, including: Messrs. Fred J. Little, John Gerant, Sen Holloway, Geo. F. Ide, J. Davis, O. Comber, A. W. Bartlett, A. Budd, E. Roma, W. Nixon, Misses Dorothy Temple, Helene Moore, May Moffatt, Peggy Le Hay, Kathleen Goslett, Dorothy Maude, etc.

PALACE.—L. & M., Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; A. M., Mr. T. W. Moyes; Asst. M., Mr. A. E. Knight.—This week: Joe Redfern's company, in "Cinderella," including: Misses Ada Bellfield, Jessie Wilton, Kitty Marston, Alice Bellfield, Val Gerald, Vanda Rees, Messrs. G. Houghton, Walter Anmer, Will Charlton, etc., and Harry Frith's Eight Dainty Maids.

VICTORIA ELECTRIC THEATRE. — This week: Two Tip-Tops, vocal and comedy artistes; Walter Lintone, concertina soloist; and pictures.

DEVONPORT.

HIPPODROME.—M., Mr. G. E. Prance; Asst. M., Mr. Wm. Baldwin.—This week: Serene Nord, the diving Venus; Robb Gilmore, comedian; Florence Esdaile, vocalist; James Dixon, baritone; France and Stewart, in "The Little Puritan"; Bros. Hannaway, comedians; Lozelle, gymnastic speciality; Chas. Heyn Company, musicians.

NEW PICTUREDROME.—P., the Hippodrome (Devonport), Ltd.; L., Mr. G. E. Prance; M., Mr. F. J. Studd.—This week (twice nightly): Brandt and James, comedy duo; the Sisters Allen, dancers; and pictures.

DEWSBURY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; G. M., Mr. Otto C. Culling; R. M., Mr. J. Herbert Asquith.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Cyril Maude presents "Bunty Pulls the Strings." The company includes: Mr. David Urquhart, Mr. R. B. Drysdale, Mr. Abie Barker, Mr. Frank Reynor, Mr. Forest Niven, Miss Mary Campbell, Miss Josephine Woodward, Miss Ella Young, Miss Eva Young, and Miss Jean Clyde. Preceded by "The Price of Coal." T. M., Mr. F. C. Pool. Next week: "The Apple of Eden."

EMPIRE.—P., Messrs. G. W. and G. E. Smith; Assist. M., Mr. E. J. Jackett.—This week (twice nightly): Chevalier and Le Noir and company, in "The Mexican Rebel Dance"; Les Bon Bons, xylophone and marimba players; Genochi, imitator; Fred Carey, comedian; Les Gerlandos; Hurl and Ford, comedians and dancers; Edna Lyall, singer; Kathi Gultini, lady juggler, and assistant; and pictures.

HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. G. W. and G. E. Smith; G. M., Mr. Claude Shayler; Asst. M., Mr. E. Shepherd.—This week: Nellie Lenton, vocalist and dancer; and pictures.

DONCASTER.

KING'S HALL.—M. D., Mr. H. R. Geddes.—This week (twice nightly): Jack Green, with company, in "Daddy's Boy"; Ward and Davis, comedy duo; and Mentone.

DUDLEY.

OPERA HOUSE AND HIPPODROME. — P., Dudley Opera House Co., Ltd.; B. M., Mr. F. Edgar Manaton.—This week: Linga Singh, Hindoo sorcerer; Capita, comedian; Cooke Comedy Jugglers; Jen Asta, dainty comedienne; the Woellhafs, versatile vaudeville; Marjorie Gray, vocalist; the Brandons, character comedy act; Harry Cotton, the comedian, that is all; Ara, Zebra and Vora Troupe, acrobatic tumblers. Next week: Miss Ethel Ward and company in "Her Madcap Majesty."

DUNDEE.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—P., Robert Arthur Theatres Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. F. W. Wyndham; G. M., Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; Licensee & A. M., Mr. Louis Karpe; Mus. D., Mr. H. Everitt Loseby. —This week (once nightly): Mr. Alfred Denville presents "The Miracle." The company includes: Messrs. Clifford Rean, J. H. Clyndes, Robson Paige, Alfred Denville, R. Ossulston-Riche, John Denville, R. J. Austin, T. R. Bannister, Alex. Cannon, C. H. Carten, Philip Tremayne, G. Philips-Bosworth, George Gordon, G. Webster, Misses Hilda Playfair, Patricia Bostock, Mary Alexander, Elsie Savile, Maud Bamford, Gertrude Carten, and Betty Stannard. Principal soprano, Miss Hilda Playfair. T.M., Mr. R. Ossulston-Riche. Matinée, Saturday 2.15. Next week: Mr. Robert Courtneidge's company in "Princess Caprice."

GAIETY THEATRE.—L., Gaiety Theatre (Dundee), Ltd.; Licensee and M. D., Mr. Henry C. Cavanah, C.A.; Mus. D., Mr. J. Murphy.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. T. Edward Ward's company in "The Slave Girl." The company includes: Messrs. S. Elwyn Leslie, Fred Rivers, C. W. Spencer, H. Arnold Allen, Tom May, Victor Cannon, Yankee Weston, Chas. Ryde, Misses Louie King, Lily Jessing, Phena Powell, Effie Macintosh, Lizzie Chambers, Gem Lloyd, and Ward. T. M., Mr. C. W. Spencer. Next week: Lillie Williams' pantomime, "Dick Whittington."

KING'S THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—L., Dundee Theatres, Ltd.; Licensee and M., Mr. S. McIntosh; Mus. D., Mr. E. B. Rogers.—This week (twice nightly): Harry M. Vernon presents "Don't You Believe It," company including: Winnington Barnes, Sylvia Morris, Howard Templeton, &c. Also Dalton Payne and a Piano; Marie Pascal, foot juggler; Jack Barker, comedian; the Holsons, harmonising vocalists; Mason and Bart, gymnasts; Lillie Langtry, "the electric spark"; Bert Erroll, vocalist; and pictures.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—L., B.B. Pictures, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. J. J. Bennell; A. M., Mr. C. J. McArthy. —This week (twice nightly): The Two Scotch Macs, comedians; Bros. Geddes, comedians; the Danas, in comedy act; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, 3.

PAVILION PICTURE AND VARIETY PALACE.—P., Messrs. R. and J. Pennycook; M. Mr. J. Pennycook; Mus. D., Mr. James Walton.—This week (twice nightly): Burnaby and Whitcomb, comedy duo; Jack Ogg, baritone; Charles Christian, the Manx fisherman; Go-as-you-please Competition; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, 3.

PALACE THEATRE.—L., B. B. Pictures, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. J. J. Bennell; A. M., Mr. Tom Lunn.—This week (twice nightly): Kittie Stuart and company, in great musical mélange; Flora Macdonald, comedienne; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, 3.

TIVOLI THEATRE.—P. & M., Messrs. Edward and McIntosh; Mus. D., Mr. Wm. Blyth.—This week (twice nightly): Hennessy and Martell, in comedy act; Carrie Barnardt, vocalist; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, 3.

NEW HIPPODROME.—P. and M., Mr. A. E. Binnall; Mus. D., Mr. Fred Ruse. — This week (twice nightly): Sabina, musician; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, 3.

WEST END CINEMA.—S. and T., Mr. Alex Mitchell.—This week (twice nightly): Beach and Brough, comedians; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, 3.

EASTBOURNE.

DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE.—L. & M., Messrs Murray King and Clarke; Mus. D., Mr. Wilson B. Dibble.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Cyril Maude's company in "Bunty Pulls the Strings." The company includes: Messrs. Colin M. Johnston, Lowe Mackenzie, Edward Lynton, A. P. Roxburgh, James Duncan, Miss Madge Ross, Mrs. Arthur Yates, Misses Stella Campbell, Adah Dick, Evelyn Ormonde. Next week: "Man and Superman."

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Sidney W. Winter; M., Mr. H. Raymond; Mus. D., Mr. W. H. Ash.—This week (twice nightly): Margit and Lener in acrobatic act, "Wet Paint"; Harry Taft, comedian; the Three Cunards, dancers; Talberto and Douglas, the absurd people; Gladys Warren, burlesque artiste; Edie Buckingham, pierette at piano; Charles Lee, the oddity; and pictures.

PIER PAVILION.—M., Mr. George Hayes; Mus. D., Mr. E. W. Peelgen.—This week (once nightly): Messrs. Sydney Bransgrove and N. C. Slaughter's company in "Looking for Trouble." The company includes: Mr. Robert Rivers, Mr. Keith Shepherd, Mr. Mackintosh Clyde, Mr. Dick Webb, Miss Verita Vivian, Miss Dorothy Bowden, Miss Charity Wynne, Mr. Hugh Webb, Mr. Bertram Burleigh, Mr. James W. William. Next week: Mr. Charles Harrington's company in "Uncle Tom's Cabin."

ECCLES.

CROWN THEATRE.—P., Messrs. William Henry Broadhead and Son; R. A. M., Mr. Albert Rogers.—This week (twice nightly): Elsie Claire, vocalist; Tom Jersey and his Assistant; pictures.

EDINBURGH.

ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; A. M., Mr. Simon Ord; Mus. D., Mr. E. J. Rogers.—Mr. Edward G. Hemmerde's Jacobite play, "Proud Maisie," attracted a large audience on Monday evening when the drama was produced for the first time in Edinburgh. The work contains many fine lines, and it has one very strong situation in the third act. In the hands of Mr. Arthur Hardy's company the play received an admirable rendering. The delightful elocution and gallant bearing of Mr. Vernon Steel constitute him an ideal representative of Neil McAlpine, and his love scenes with Miss Laura Cowie—who gave a pathetic performance of the title-rôle—were carried through with true passion and feeling. Mr. J. J. Bartlett played with care and effect as the wavering Earl of Pitcour; and a spirited impersonation of Guy, Lord Monteith, was presented by Mr. Henry Le Grand. Mr. Frank Esmond was a chivalrous figure as Alan MacGregor and sang "The White Cockade" in excellent style. Able support was given by Mr. Wilfrid Manners as MacDonald of Clanranald; Mr. W. Garret Hollick as Cameron of Lochiel and Mr. Frederick Morland as the old servitor, Duncan. Miss Ethel Tuson in the character of Mhorag MacGregor sang two charming songs with much acceptance. The play, which was splendidly staged, was enthusiastically applauded, and the actors were recalled again and again at the close, Mr. Vernon Steel stating, in response to calls for the author, that Mr. Hemmerde was detained in London, and was unable, as announced, to be present to see the cordial reception of his work. "The Autocrat of the Coffee Stall," by Mr. Harold Chapin, gave Mr. W. Garrett Hollick the opportunity of a good piece of acting as an ex-officer—although even a Scottish Lieutenant-Colonel does not descend to the Doric placed in the lines of the character.

THEATRE ROYAL.—M. D., Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; A. M., Mr. Wm. Whitehead; Mus. D., Mr. E. J. Rogers.—This week Mr. George Dance's company has made a welcome return visit in that stirring melodrama, "The Whip." Realistically mounted and acted with vigour by the cast, the play has drawn crowded audiences, who have testified their enjoyment by hearty applause, the racecourse scene in particular evoking much enthusiasm. Amongst a large number of characters who contribute to the success of the drama mention must be made of Mr. C. Sandford, Mr. Gerald Jordan, Mr. Lawrence Tessier, Mr. Wm. Kershaw, Mr. Ernest Darrell, Miss Mary Thorne, and Miss Ruth Henton.

KING'S THEATRE.—P., The Edinburgh Construction Co., Ltd.; G. M., Mr. P. L. Howat; Mus. D., Mr. A. Douglas Wilcox.—For the third and concluding week of their Edinburgh season the Royal Carl Rosa Opera company opened on Monday evening with "Cavalleria Rusticana" and "I Pagliacci," under the baton of Mr. Eugene Goossens, both works being cordially received by a delighted audience. In the "Cavalleria" Messrs. Charles Neville and Samuel Lansdale were eminently successful as Turiddu and Alfio; Miss Miriam Licette, both in her singing and acting well interpreted the rôle of Santuzza; and the parts of Lola and Lucia were approvingly rendered by Miss Dorothy Lawson-Taylor and Miss Jean Douglas Wilson. "Pagliacci" was strongly cast, with Mr. E. C. Hedmondt as Canio, Mr. Hebden Foster as Tonio, Mr. Charles Neville as Beppo, Mr. Felix Fleischer as Silvio, and Miss Beatrice Miranda as Nedda, by all of whom the tragedy of this musical melodrama was powerfully realised. On Tuesday, again under the direction of Mr. Goossens, a fine performance of "Don Giovanni" included in the cast the three prima donnas, Miss Elizabeth Burgess, Miss Miriam Licette, and Miss Ina Hill as Elvira, Zerlina, and Anna respectively, with Mr. Arthur Winkworth at his best as Leporello, Mr. Felix Fleischer, who sang well in the title-rôle, Mr. Gordon Thomas and Mr. Frederick Clendon, both good as Don Ottavio and Masetto, and Mr. Maurice Robinson as the Commandant. "Faust" was billed for Wednesday, "Tannhäuser" for Friday, and "Il Trovatore" for Saturday evening, Thursday evening and Saturday's matinée being set apart for the first performances out of London of "The Jewels of the Madonna."

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. T. Aynsley Cook; Mus. D., Mr. James Howarth.—Tom Foy provides the leading turn in this week's programme, and, with his funny sketch, entitled "The First of April," the clever comedian increases the popularity he has obtained during the past couple of months in the Edinburgh pantomime. The Princess D'Aryaba, assisted by Mlle. Noya, gives a finished display of expert dancing in a beautiful scena, "La Sylphe," in which La Zaira, a young and dainty danseuse, also appears and dances most gracefully; and the Three Cape Girls, as long boot dancers, exploit another phase of terpsichorean art very cleverly. Talbot and Pearce entertain the audience quite pleasantly with an Irish vocal scena, "Over the Garden Wall"; Francis and Alfred perform a series of smart juggling feats with comedy accompaniment; while the songs and patter of the Hebrew comedians, Lowenwirth and Cohan, bring down the house. Jock McKay's almost unique method as a Scotch humorist is greatly enjoyed, and secures the heartiest applause; Jack Smiles makes a promising appearance as a comedian and dancer; and a clever turn is contributed by George Newburn, the star mimic of star artistes, whose imitation of Tom Foy counts among his happiest and most successful hits.

FALKIRK.

GRAND THEATRE. — M. D., Mr. R. C. Buchanan; R. M., Mr. Horace W. Ebbutt.—This week: "Bunty Pulls the Strings," presented by Mr. Cyril Maude's company. The cast includes: Misses Eleanor Scott, Margaret McPherson, Ruby Sime, Evelyn Greig, and Douglas Hicks, and Messrs. Tom Crawford, G. Hunter, Bernard Barker, James Wright, and John Macdonald.

ELECTRIC THEATRE. — M. D., Mr. J. E. Atkinson.—This week: A. W. B. Kingston and company, in the comedy sketch, "Soutar Johnny"; Bobby, the tramp entertainer; Jenny Lindsay, comedienne; Rolf E. Slater, in songs and harmony; and pictures.

FERNDALE.

NEW WORKMEN'S HALL.—G. M., Mr. David Williams.—This week: Bert Maddison, comedian; Three Sisters Eston, trapeze artistes; Lewis and Lansky, comedians; and pictures.

FOLKESTONE.

PLEASURE GARDENS.—M., Mr. H. B. Hampton; Mus. D., Mr. G. Cooper.—This week (once nightly): "Jelf's." The company includes: Clarence Childs, Neville Audus, George T. Roberts, William Macfarlane, Theo Stevens, Edith Cruikshanks, Laura Leigh, Cynthia Challis, Dorothy Mason, Guy Leigh-Pemberton, Arthur McCulloch, Edward Ouston, Godfrey Bowes, J. Court Harvard, Upton Sackville, Tom Howard, and Ralph Gardner. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30. Next week: "The Younger Generation."

GATESHEAD.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—P., The Newcastle and Gateshead Theatres, Ltd.; G. M., Mr. Stanley Rogers; A. M., Mr. E. C. Howitt.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Albert Sember presents "A Woman's Revenge." The company includes: Mr. Albert Sember, Mr. Cuthbert Taylor, Mr. Frank Ayrton, Mr. Evan Roland, Mr. Ernest Regent, Mr. Sidney James, Mr. James Best, Mr. Arthur Stannard, Mr. G. Lambert Williams, Miss Lilian Burns, Miss Madge Seymour, Miss Louise Campbell, Miss Jessie Paterson, and Miss Mona Holmes. Next week: "The Sleeping Beauty."

KING'S THEATRE.—G. M., Mr. R. F. Douthwaite; A. M., Mr. M. S. Hammond.—This week (once nightly): The Gateshead Amateur Operatic Society present—Monday and Wednesday, "Merrie England"; Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, "The Yeomen of the Guard." The company includes: Mr. E. Roache, Mr. J. McRoberts, Master Roy McKew, Master Norris Ferry, Miss Marie Nicholson, Mrs. Colin Veitch, Miss E. Ferguson, Miss Adeline Paulsen, Miss B. Young, Miss F. Moore, Mr. W. Walker, Mr. J. Williams, Mr. D. Ditchburn, Mr. J. Coyle, Mr. G. E. Patterson, Mr. F. Ferry, Mr. M. Ditchburn, Mr. H. Alderson, Mr. G. M. Long, Mr. W. McIntyre, Miss May Hopper, Miss Eveleigh De Moleyns, Mr. G. Macdonald, Mr. E. T. Heenan, Mr. Wilfred Walker, Mr. Fred. Patterson, Mr. R. R. Luther, Mr. C. E. Robson, and Mr. E. W. Robinson. Matinée, Saturday, at 2 p.m., "Merrie England."

GILLINGHAM.

GRAND.—P., The Grand Picture and Variety Theatre Co., Ltd.; S. & M., Mr. W. T. Beattie.—This week (twice nightly): Robins and Collier, in "Miss Bacon's Easter Egg"; the McKinleys, duettists and dancers; the Hanley Brothers, comedians and dancers; Kitty Leon, comedienne; and pictures.

GEM.—P., Messrs. C. and S. Goodman; M., Mr. C. Goodman.—Pag, triple-voiced entertainer; Reggie Dingle, comedian; Zeta Russell, comedienne and dancer; and pictures.

GLASGOW.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Howard and Wyndham, Ltd.; M. D., Messrs. F. W. Wyndham and G. T. Minshull; A. M., Mr. Harry F. Ashton.—"The House that Jack Built" has entered on its last week. The piece has proved wonderfully attractive, and, judging by the enthusiasm with which it was greeted by a large audience on Monday it could have been continued for some time. Billy Merson as Sammy and Fred Barnes as the Prince are outstanding among the talented artistes, and in conjunction with Gwladys Soman, Daisy Yates, and Ida Valli, complete a quintette that would ensure the success of any pantomime.

KING'S.—M. D., Messrs. F. W. Wyndham and Geo. T. Minshull; B. M., Mr. Hugh Macfarlane.—Mr. George Edwardes's latest production to reach here is "Gipsy Love," and a crowded house extended a very hearty welcome to the new opera. Beautifully staged, picturesquely costumed, and with music that is tuneful always, and at times ambitious, the piece has all the requirements necessary for success, and the cast is particularly good. Miss Blanche Tomlin as Ilona is a singer of much ability, and acts her part with feeling. Miss Avice Kelham as Lady Babby shines both in her songs and dances. Mr. Leonard Mackay's fine voice is well suited for the passionate music of the gipsy lover, Jozsi, and Mr. Walter Adams as Joel also contributes several good items. The humour of the piece is well looked after by Mr. Lauri de Frece, who revelled in the opportunities afforded by the part of Dragotin. Mr. William Spray, as the bashful lover Kajeta, is also very funny, and his sweetheart Jolan is charmingly played by Miss Daisy Burrell, who has some notable dances to her credit in the course of the evening. Mr. Ian Colquhoun made a hit with his "Love and Wine" song. Mr. Grafton Williams, Miss Grace Wixon, Miss Evelyn Harding, and Miss Berenice Maxwell give able support. Special dances are contributed by Miss Florence Arnold and Mons. J. Kawecki. The chorus and orchestra under Herr B. Schonberger do ample justice to the music of Franz Lehar.

PRINCESS'S.—P., Mr. Rich Waldon; A. M., Mr. Hugh Murdoch; Mus. D., Mr. Henri Vollmer. —"Goody Two Shoes" is an admirable pantomime with many beautiful scenes and crammed full of amusing business, while the songs have all been selected with care, and some of the concerted numbers are tuneful and sung with much taste. Miss Kitty Dale and Miss Jenny Hartley have established themselves great favourites here, both singing and dancing with much acceptance. Mr. Dan Whitley's quaint sayings and doings as the Baron's son keep the house in excellent humour, and the grotesque manner of Mr. Billy Walters as the Postie add considerably to the fun. Good assistance in the comedy business is also forthcoming from Mr. Ernest Plumpton as the Dame. The Sisters Emson, a chic boy and girl, do excellent work, keeping the house pleased with their charming ways.

METROPOLE.—M. D., Mr. Arthur Jefferson; A. M., Mr. Harry C. Edwin.—Mr. Harry Foxwell's company is paying a return visit here in the touching Lancashire play, "Only a Mill Girl." The mill foreman is a finely drawn character, and is played by Mr. John Burton with excellent effect; while his daughter, the mill girl, is attractively represented by Miss Daisie Cook. The manly bearing of Mr. Jack M'Caig in the rôle of the hero, Ainsleigh, is pleasing; Mr. Harry C. Robinson gives a capital idea of the polished schemer, Thornton, whose accomplice, Bernstein, is amusingly portrayed by Mr. Rupert S. Carlton. Miss Alice Greenwood acts and dresses well as Constance Daryll; the comedy parts, Shuttleworth (Mr. Bernard Lovett), and his sweetheart Martha (Miss Emmie Dorris), supply a wealth of local colour; old Mr. Thornton, by Mr. Edwin Clarke; and the Chauffeur by Mr. Roy Gordon are also well-filled parts.

EMPIRE.—P., Messrs. Moss' Empires, Ltd.; M., Mr. G. Rhodes Parry; Asst. M., Mr. R. D. Harvey; Mus. D., Mr. W. B. Moore.—Albert Chevalier, the famous actor and comedian, on Monday gave three of his old favourites, "The fallen star," "My old dutch," and "Knocked 'em in the Old Kent-road," and they were received with all the old enthusiasm. Fred Russell and his figure, "Coster Joe," cause unbounded merriment; Hunt and Thomas go well in a comedy duologue; Doris Duquesne is a charming juvenile comedienne and dancer; the Quigley Brothers, Irish comedians, are full of real humour; Laurette and Laurel give a marvellous exhibition of acrobatic contortionistic dancing; Happy Jack Gardner, the black-faced comedian, revels in syncopated melodies; and the Van der Koors complete an excellent bill with a most amusing quack illusionist show.

PAVILION, LTD.—M., Mr. Evan Good; Mus. D., Mr. R. F. Steele.—The Moore and Burgess Minstrels are a capital combination, whether considered vocally or instrumentally; Elfie Fay has quite a style of her own, and scores in story, song and dance; Miss Phyllis Monkman sings "That mysterious rag" in a way that delights the audience. The programme also includes Victor Courtney, at the piano; the Hyde and Cody Trio, in a funny farce, "Jack o' Both Sides"; the Juggling Geraldos, who bring the art of club manipulation to a high state of perfection; John Child, who has a sweet tenor voice; and Davenport, Duo and Wynne, who create great merriment in their comedy conjuring act.

PALACE.—P., Mr. Rich Waldon; G. M., Mr. Harry McKelvie; Mus. D., Mr. Arthur Fellowes.—Charlie Carr's American Rag-timers head the bill, and are heard to much advantage in their latest American successes; a high-class musical entertainment is given by Jean Schwiller, the famous 'cellist, in conjunction with Miss Julie Dolaro, concluding with an original scena, "The Vision of the Wanderng Musician"; while the performance submitted by Mlle. Sarema, presenting a miniature circus, including performing cats, dogs, monkeys, parrots, etc., is exceedingly interesting. Lily Lonsdale is heard to much advantage in several well-known songs; and the athletic feats of the Three Flying Wolkans border on the marvellous; a clever ventriloquial performance is submitted by J. W. Winton with McGinty; while a great jumping performance is given by Louis Guertin. The other items include Ernie Myers, comedian; Pop Carson, coon comedienne and dancer; and Palace pictures.

COLISEUM.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. Arthur E. Barnes.—The programme is headed this week by Chas. Austin, the popular comedian, in his screamingly funny sketch, "The Bombshell"; a dramatic and touching little playlet, entitled "The Heart of a Child," is presented by Mrs. Walter T. Simmons' company, which includes Mr. Paul Lovett, Master Vincent Reville, Mr. Edward Sidney, and Miss Kitty Delancy; the Real McKays, two clever juvenile Scotch entertainers, are well received; and W. F. Frame, an old favourite, has also a hearty welcome. Alf Tack, equilibrist and head jumper, performs some clever feats; the famous Craggs present a clever, humorous and acrobatic turn, which takes well; Luiz Alvarez, tenor vocalist, has also a good reception. A rag-time selection by the orchestra and the American Bioscope complete the programme.

ALHAMBRA, LTD.—M. D., Mr. Alfred Butt; M., Mr. Edward Foster; Mus. D., Mr. Howard Croft.—The return visit of the world-renowned Cinquevalli is attracting large audiences here this week, his remarkable dexterity in the manipulation of billiard balls and masterly balancing feats call forth vociferous applause; D'Armand and Carter are heartily received in rag-time specialities; Katie Butler proves a favourite in light comedy numbers; and the Max Franklin Troupe are responsible for some daring gymnastic and trapeze business. In Baby Watson we have a juvenile artiste of outstanding merit, her charming vocalism and attractive mannerisms greatly delighting the audience; she is ably assisted by Miss Florrie. A flattering reception is accorded the Five MacLarens, a combine of unique entertainers, instrumental selections, Highland and clog dancing being items of note in a varied contribution. Elida Morris is a skilful exponent of rag-time vocalism; Jack Kelly, the original stockwhip king, assisted by Miss Violet Kelly, whip expert, provide an interesting and instructive exhibition; and J. E. Vedrenne and Dennis Eadie's company present a highly diverting sketch, entitled "Susan's Embellishments."

LYCEUM (GOVAN), LTD.—R. M., Mr. J. H. Oakden; Mus. D., Mr. Thos. Walker.—"Anita," the living doll lady is only 26in. high, and her figure is proportionate to her height, and a wonderful contrast is seen when her eldest brother, who is four years her junior, and stands 5ft. 10½in. in his stockings, is placed alongside her; Conway and Leland are a couple of clever comedians and acrobats; the Three Annfields, rag-time singers and dancers, with a piano, create a good impression; a conjurer of exceptional ability is Henri Bekker, who is assisted by "the ornamental stand," his wife; Hal and Lal give a good ventriloquial scena, introducing marvellous mechanical figures; Neil and Davis, Scotch comedy entertainers, render their songs in good style; the Meadins, a refined comedy duo, score with the "Commercial Traveller"; Kitty Douglas, chorus comedienne, sings her songs well.

OLYMPIA.—L. & M., Messrs. de Frece and Edelsten, Ltd.; M., Mr. John McMillan; Mus. D., Mr. Lex Holmes.—The star turn this week is "Billy Boy," a dramatic scena, with Leonard Mortimer in the title-rôle, assisted by Mr. Arthur Bawtree, Mr. Edward M'Lean, Mr. H. O. Leigh, Mr. Frank Herald, and Miss Ida Clifford. The piece is cleverly staged, and is received with much favour. Other turns are Paul Bonar, the singing fisherman, who, in "Ailsa mine," received an ovation; Mr. Jean Cram, the erratic juggler; Miss Peggy Wyse, the princess of rag-time; the coloured boys, Pete and Juno, sand dancers; Carl Howard, the magic muddler, who does many smart conjuring tricks; Jean Campbell, Scottish contralto, who sings very sweetly; "The Burglars," by Chas. Carow and company; and the Olympia pictures.

SAVOY.—L., Lillie Williams, Ltd.; M., Mr. H. Godwin.—La Belle Duchesse and her horses, ponies, dogs, and boxing stallion; Will Candlish, the dusky Scot; Tom Bassett, character comedian; and "The Ragged Patriot," a powerful playlet, presented by A. Fitzmaurice and R. Lord are of special interest. The remaining turns are Eddy Stream, Pat Clark, Sisters Kelly, Annie Haggie, Edie Gorf, Raeburn Brothers, Maude May Murray, Cissie Norton, Stillwell and Walton, the Two Franks, Chas. March, Maude Laine, the Rosie Ring Trio, Nan McGregor, Geo. and Nell Greatorex, and Lilly and Harry Zanoni.

PRINGLE'S, LTD.—M. D., Mr. Ralph Pringle; R. M., Mr. George Paulton; Mus. D., Mr. William Milne.—Len Hale and the McLean Girls are a clever trio, who sing good songs and dance ably; Bob Dredge is a double-voiced vocalist with wonderful range; and there is also an admirable selection of pictures.

STAR PALACE.—P., Star Picture and Vaudeville Co., Ltd.; R. M., Mr. George Chandos.—The principal attraction is Consul Pedro, the marvellous chimpanzee, who goes through astonishing feats; the Four Blairs dance gracefully and Spence and Barnes are responsible for a musical turn of a high order. The pictures are well varied.

PANOPTICON.—P. and D., Mr. A. E. Pickard; G. M., Mr. W. Sinclair; S., Mr. G. S. Downing. —This week (four times daily): The Brothers Randells, in comedy act; Roy Denmand, comedian and dancer; Silver and Gould, comedians; Yorke and Rose, duettists; pictures.

CASINO.—Sole P., Mr. A. E. Pickard; B. M., Mr. W. Sinclair; R. M., Mr. H. C. Glenroy.—This week (twice nightly): Four McLeans, in "The Children's Party"; Douglas and Donald, Scotch comedy couple; Brothers Marcello, jugglers and tumblers; pictures.

PICTURE PALACE, IBROX.—Sole P., Mr. A. E. Pickard; B. M., Mr. W. Sinclair; R. M., Mr. W. Shoverby.—This week (once nightly): Bros. Julian, comedians and dancers; the two Harols, comedy speciality artistes; pictures. Children's matinée, Saturday, at 3 p.m.

GLOUCESTER.

PALACE.—L. & G. M., Mr. Will Smithson; R. M., Mr. R. T. Rea.—This week (once nightly): Mr. George Dance's company in "The Chocolate Soldier." Company includes: Mr. Aubrey Millward, Miss Melba Sharratt, Miss Elsie Craven, Mr. G. Hardcastle, Mr. G. Patterson, Miss E. White, Mr. Davies, Mr. E. Langford, Miss F. Nutkins, Mr. Tom Verity, Mr. R. Harry Barratt, Miss D. de Florac, Mr. Walter Heal, Mr. W. P. Morgan, Miss Edith St. George. Special matinée, Saturday, 2.30. "The Burglars"; and pictures.

KING'S HALL.—L., Messrs. Poole's Theatres, Ltd.—This week: The Dalgarnos; Harold Helsey; Paul Corrix; and pictures.

GRANTHAM.

EMPIRE.—P. & M., Mr. J. A. Campbell; A. M., Mr. W. Marshall.—This week (twice nightly): C. Vernon Proctor's company in "What Happened to Jones." The cast includes: Mr. Charles Sewell, Mr. G. Carlton-Crowe; Mr. Frank Venn, Mr. Raymond Dudley, Mr. Claude Seaton, Mr. John Lirwill, Mr. C. Vernon Proctor, Miss Harrietta Polini, Miss Nancy Clutterbuck, Miss Sara Dudley, Miss Christine Jensen, Miss Connie Meadows, Miss Amy Rudd. Next week: "Colombo Girl."

GRAVESEND.

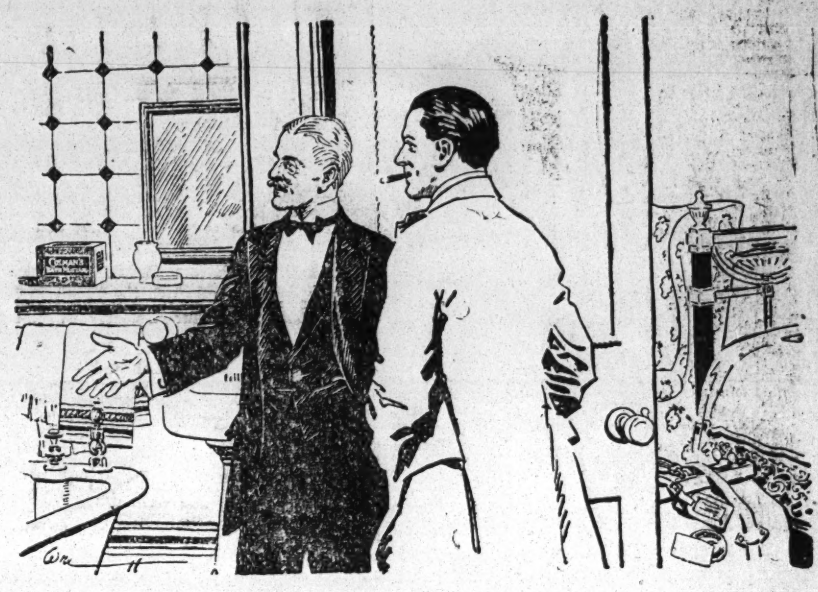
GRAND THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—M. D., Mr. John Collins; D., Mr. M. Hyman; M., Mr. Charles G. Rembges.—This week (twice nightly): Leoni Clarke, and his 200 cats, rabbits, canaries, monkeys, &c.; Sisters Holman, comediennes; Bros. Tarrant, comedians and dancers; Vera Dell, comedienne and dancer; Winnie Derson, comedienne; Bell and Frez, comedy acrobats; Harry Anderson, comedian; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.30.

GREAT YARMOUTH.

ROYAL AQUARIUM.—Sole P., Mr. W. H. Nightingale.—This week: Mr. Geo. Bowes presents pantomime, "Ali Baba." The company includes: Mlle. Bartinelli, Mr. Arthur Bright, the Three Cecil Girls, Mr. Colin Carlisle, Mr. Phil Inglis, La Belle Ivy, Guest and Dawn, Harry Alvey, Peter Pan, Jack Kendrick, Flo Inman, J. Ebsworth, Harry Eivey, Dorothy Pugh Davies, Rose Gandy, Peals Dare, R. Allison, Elsie McConkey, Florrie Hambroke, Verona Velda, Daisy Martin, Annie Long, A. Collinson, C. Ronald, Edith Evans, Arthur Wright, Joan D'Arc, Lillian Terry, Violet Aubrey, Kathleen Pelham, Aubrey Pelham, C. Stockton, etc.

HIPPODROME.—Sole P. & M., Mr. Geo. Gilbert.—This week: Alan Holt and company, in "A Society Woman"; Billy Marsden; Connie Mascot; Selwyn and Willows; and pictures.

GEM.—M. D., Mr. E. V. Barr.—This week: The Four Vagabonds, Len Teele, the Kleine Twins.



"And this is your bathroom. I think you'll find everything you need—and the first thing you do, be sure

you put some mustard in your bath. I recommend it to all of my friends. There's nothing like a mustard-bath to invigorate one after such a train journey as you've just had.

"It'll not make you a minute late from dinner. It is so quickly done. And you'll feel so fine and fit to 'change.'

"I get the specially put-up Colman's Bath Mustard. You'll find just the quantity in one carton for your bath. For years I've used the regular 'Colman's'—before they put up these bath-packets; simply took two or three tablespoonfuls, mixed it in a little cold water, stirred it round in the bath—and felt like a new man when I climbed out of the tub."

The action of mustard in the bath is no mystery,—though it restores tired muscles, soothes the nerves and clears the brain (by equalising the blood-circulation) as if by magic. Scientists and doctors demonstrated years ago how mustard in a bath acts upon the entire system through the cutaneous blood vessels. Have you Colman's Mustard in the house?

'Let Muster Mistard prepare your bath.'

Mr. Harry Bailey, the Kentucky Sextette, and pictures.

GREENOCK.

KING'S THEATRE.—P. & M., Messrs. A. B. and J. J. Wright; Mus. D., Mr. W. T. Green.—This week (once nightly): Mr. James E. Persse presents "Ready Money." The company includes: Mr. Frank Fenton, Mr. Ashmore Vincent, Mr. Alex. J. Begbie, Mr. Frank M'Kee, Mr. Chesney Allen, Mr. Stacey Gaunt, Mr. Archer Brown, Mr. H. J. Walton, Mr. David Kempe, Mr. Arthur Rylestone, Mr. Bernard Gold, Mr. James Russon, Mr. Vernon Keith, Mr. W. Stacey, Miss Gwendolyn Carlisle, Miss Brenda Harvey, Miss Gladys Gaunt. Preceded by "A Strong Hand." T. M., Mr. Herbert J. Walton. Next week: "The Fatal Wedding."

GRIMSBY.

PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. J. H. Curry; A. M., Mr. Henry Carlton; Mus. D., Mr. J. R. Bingley.—This week: Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson's drama, "The Blackguard of the Regiment." The company includes: Mr. Hill-Mitchelson, Mr. Sidney A. Monckton, Mr. Stanley W. Healey, Mr. Cyril Harrison, Mr. Willie Hicks, Miss Laurie Adair, Miss Tessa Myers, Miss Mysie Monte, and Miss Alice Barber.

PALACE.—G. M., Mr. F. Verner Walford; A. M., Mr. H. Surfleet; Mus. D., Mr. T. Stevens.—This week: "The Window of the Haunted House," presented by Maskelyne and Devant; Frank Elliston, in "Three and a Fool"; John Earle, the "hatedian"; Les Videos, trick skaters; Kate and Tom Major, in "After the Overture"; the Letines, comedy acrobats; and Frank H. Fox, comedian.

GUERNSEY.

THEATRE ST. JULIAN.—M. D. Messrs. Ed. Marris and Albany Ward; R. M., Mr. George A. Deighton.—This week: The Four Kings, juvenile vocalists; La Petit Mabel, child vocalist and dancer; and the Sylvester Trio, in dancing and comedy; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday at 3 p.m.

HALIFAX.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., the Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; G. M., Mr. Otto C. Culling; Mus. D., Mr. Edwin James.—This week (once nightly): Messrs. Vedrenne and Eadie present "Milestones." The company includes: Mr. Wilfrid Caithness, Mr. Wilfred Eaton, Mr. Fernley Bisshopp, Mr. C. Probyn Dighton, Mr. B. M. Hallward, Mr. Charles Field, Mr. Bert Rouen, Mr. George Hewetson, Miss Nellie Griffen, Miss Lynn Fontanne, Miss Mary Lincoln, Miss Bertha Wilkinson, Miss Alice M. Maude, Miss Violet Gibbs. T. M., Mr. E. Taylor Platt. Next week: "Sowing the Wind," "Snug Little Kingdom," &c., &c.

GRAND THEATRE.—P., Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; G. M., Mr. Otto C. Culling; A. M., Mr. J. Hinton.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. and Mrs. Charles Draycott present "The Great White Chief." The company includes: Percy Folliss, Russell Norrie, Charles E. Johnson, Leonard Maitland, Maurice Love, Lionel Hardinge, Frederick Carr, Victor Ellerton, Harry Furniss, F. Wilson Lowther, Wongatah Susquenha, Fred F. Smith, Dorothy Charles, Phyllis Elton, Mrs. Charles Draycott. T. M., Mr. Charles E. Johnson. Next week: "The Mill Girl."

HANLEY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Hanley Theatres Circus, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone; M., Mr. Frank Powis.—This week (once nightly and Thursday matinée, 2): Mr. George Dance's Co., in "The Quaker Girl." The company includes: Frank H. Crimp, Fred Monti, G. McCloskie, Frederick Hobbs, Henry Adnes, J. Lennox, John Duncan, Glen Owen, William Green, Hilda Stuart, Doris Dennis, Ivy Harcourt, Jenny Harcourt, May Marshall, Kitty Develin, Lucille Vivien, Lily Green, Cissie Guiver, Hilda Bellamy, Ida Harvey, Adela Crispin. Next week: "The Hope."

GRAND.—P., Hanley Theatres, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone; M., Mr. F. Dudman Bromwich.—This week: Smaragda's performing cats; Willy Pantzer and company in "The Limit"; Frank Powell, comedian; the Masques, in "Galatea"; Phil Kauffman, Cockney coon; Bessie Benson, comedienne and dancer; the Raymond Trio, in musical and dancing act; the Payolas, in athletic novelty; and pictures.

KING'S.—L., Mr. J. P. Moore; M., Mr. Colin Hazlewood.—This week: Miss Dulcie May, comedienne; Baby Pauline; and pictures.

HARROGATE.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—M. D., Mr. William Peacock.—This week (once nightly): Miss Horniman's company presents on Monday and Wednesday, "The Pigeon"; on Tuesday evening, "The New Sin," preceded by Miss Tacey. The company includes: Bernard Copping, Brember Wills, Sybil Thorndike, Muriel Pratt, Jules Shaw, Francis Hope, Lewis Casson, Reginald W. Fry, Harold Neville, H. F. Maltby, Ernest Haines, Leonard Chapman, Ronald Williams. D., Mr. Lewis Casson. On Thursday (for three nights): James Welch in play, "Seven Days."

HASTINGS.

GAIETY THEATRE.—M., Mr. H. W. Rowland; R. A. M., Mr. C. E. Scutt.—This week (once nightly and matinée Saturday, 2.30): Messrs. B. Iden Payne and H. Theodore's company, in "The Younger Generation," preceded by "The Tallyman." The company includes: Messrs. Rupert Harvey, W. Bridges-Adams, George Owen, Lionel Fancourt, Eric Graham, Kenneth Bruce, William Dexter, Misses Ethel St. Barbe, Dorothy Kingsley, Eda Farmer, and Katherine Herbert. M., Mr. W. Bridges-Adams.

HINCKLEY.

PAVILION. — Controlling P., Mr. Arthur Draper Pavilion Co.; M., Mr. A. T. M. Mountford.—This week: The Three Dancing Derbys, in song scena; Ronah Norman, vocalist; Tom Stone, comedian; Leslie Digby, comedian; and pictures.

HORDEN.

PALACE.—P., Messrs. Oswald and McPherson; M., Mr. Bert Velma; Mus. D., Mr. S. Renwick.—This week: Butler and Ward in comedy act, "Oh, What Luck!" Arthur Freear, comedian; and pictures.

HOUGHTON-LE-SPRING.

GAIETY.—P., Messrs. Hall and Ainsley; R. M., Mr. Robert Ainsley.—This week: Messrs. William De Lacy and Cecil Tymes present "Little Red Riding Hood." The company includes: Misses Mollie Leslie, Dora Leslie, Dorothy Brocks, May Knight, Vera Tymes, Annie Tate, Elsie Norman, Madge Spenceley, Nellie Lewis, Olive Mayes, Messrs. Cecil Tymes, Jack Colvil, Will Webb, and Frank Vant. Specialities: La Rosina Girls, dancers; Cromfield and Railton, comedians; Convil and Tate, rag-time dancers; Lyvette and Lynette, musical act, etc. Next week: "Mother's Love."

EMPIRE.—P., Houghton Empire Theatres, Ltd.; M., Mr. W. H. Lindon Travers.—Variety turns: Mme. Dalmere's Circus, animals; the Armsides, comedians; and pictures.

HUDDERSFIELD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; B. M., Mr. Fred Benton.—This week (once nightly): Sir George Alexander's company presents "Bella Donna." The company includes: Mr. Stephan T. Ewart, Mr. George Bishop, Mr. Herbert Ranson, Mr. Ivan Campbell, Mr. F. Jeffreys, Mr. Cyril Cattley, Mr. Eric G. Turner, Mr. J. Adeane-Barlow, Mr. H. Kemble-Barnett, Mr. Frank Elton, Miss Edyth Latimer, Miss Nella Powys, Miss Mollie Moynagh. T. M., Mr. J. W. Wood-Ingram. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.15. Next week: "Fanny's First Play."

PALACE.—P., Mr. Frank Macnaghten; M., Mr. Herbert Garside.—This week: The Two Canadians, instrumentalists; Rowland, comedy juggler; McMahon and Du For, in comedy duologue, "The Sleeping Car"; Will H. Fox, trick pianist; Erard's Vaudevillians, in a variety of song scenas; Ragolio, rag picture artist; Conway George, light comedian; and pictures.

HIPPODROME.—Amateur Operatic Society in new production, "The Squire of Harlington."

HULL.

GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Morton's, Ltd.; M., Mr. W. F. Morton; M. D., Mr. Wm. Herman.—Like "Peter Pan" himself this beautiful play can never grow old while human hearts and thoughts are still the same as now. And, moreover, when the title-rôle is played by an artiste of such talents as those possessed by Miss Pauline Chase, is there any wonder? For the children engaged in the production one has heaps of praise for the rare intelligence they display. On Monday night the house claimed a large share of patronage from the youngsters, and for their benefit matinées have been arranged during the week. Very pleasing was the work done by Miss Gertrude Lang as the Wandy-Mother; Mr. Holman Clarke gave the right touch to the Pirate; and Miss Jessie Winter and Mr. E. Spencer Geach caught the proper Barrie spirit as Mr. and Mrs. Darling.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Morton's Ltd.; M., Mr. Geo. Morton.—Pantomime has given place to drama, and one to the tastes of the audience is provided in "When London Sleeps." It is a production that makes full appeal to the patrons of the popular playhouse. Mr. Alf. Adams is well cast as Capt. Rodney Haynes, and plays the rôle with conspicuous success; Miss Florence Halton caught the author's intention in her rendering of the character of Queenie; Miss Florence Dalton as Hilda evinced talent of high order; Mr. Herbert Morgan limned the portrait of David in proper tints, and made him of heroic mould. "When London Sleeps" is destined to draw for many a day.

PALACE THEATRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Frank Allen; A. M., Mr. John S. Barnett.—An attractive programme here this week features the Six Bros. Luck, in their screamingly funny sketch, "H.M.S. Perhaps," which creates roars of laughter. A flattering reception is accorded Gwennie Llewellyn, a soprano vocalist, who uses her rich and cultured voice with great effect. With his comedy juggling the Great Weiland is exceptionally funny; Friend and Downing, comedy couple, are responsible for some highly diverting patter; in a smart mimetic entertainment Harry Fields is well received; Wullie Walker, Scotch humorist and story-teller, proves very popular; and other successful contributors include Grey and Grey, in a clever musical speciality act; and Edie King, a charming comedienne and dancer. Interesting bioscope pictures conclude.

TIVOLI.—L., The Kingston Varieties Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Harry Slingsby.—Paul Barnes, the talkative American, has an abundance of good patter, which causes many a merry peal of laughter; Moran and Wiser delight everyone with their sensational comedy hat throwing; a capital sketch is that presented by Jas. Houston and company, entitled "The Best Man"; the Three Lascalles afford much pleasure with their musical comedy absurdity, "The Aviators"; in a new and original creation, Rell and Butt are a diverting pair of comedians; Hector and Miss Lolletta submit a clever equilibristic act; the Araluz are comedy acrobats of exceptional ability; and other capital turns are Ethel Bourne, contralto vocalist; Two Weymans, dance artistes; and Reg. Wentworth, light comedian.

HYDE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. & M., Mr. B. Pareezer; R. M., Mr. Tom N. Mills.—This week (once nightly): Mr. George Edwardes presents "The Merry Widow." The company includes: Mesdames Grace Wilson, Cecil Haydon, Katie May, Ethel Darsley, Trixie Vaenor, Adeline Roze, Dacie Bedford, Doris Ryder, Beatrice Willis, Gladys Gabrielle, Messrs. Robert Needham, Alfred Beers, Ronald Pomeroy, Adrian Beaumont, Tom H. David, Sydney Calland, Cecil Warwick, C. L. Steward, and Clinton Reynald. Next week: "The Frontier Queen."

HIPPODROME.—P. & M., Mr. W. Stansfield.—This week (twice nightly): Professor Bennett and Mme. Conway, swimmers and trick performers; Archie O'Niel, vocalist and dancer; Dora Delea and Bert Ster, entertainers; and pictures.

INVERNESS.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Messrs. F. and R. Kelso.—This week: Gilbert and Butler, in "Firelight Dreams"; Lieut. Gordon, ventriloquist and animal mimic; and pictures.

IPSWICH.

LYCEUM.—P., The Ipswich Lyceum, Ltd.; L., Messrs. Murray King, Clarke and W. H. Savery; R. M., Mr. Cecil P. Blumberg; Mus. D., Mr. H. Lewin Taylor.—This week: Mr. Brandon Thomas's company in "Charley's Aunt," including Mr. T. McCausland Stewart, Mr. James Page, Mr. L. Anderson, Mr. F. T. Cooper, Mr. C. Windermere, Mr. Sydney Compton, Miss Mabel Young, Miss Florence Saunders, Miss Vera Cornish, and Miss Pauline Hugen. Next week: "Diana of Dobson's."

HIPPODROME.—Sole P., Mr. E. H. Bostock; R. M., Mr. J. Gordon Bostock.—This week: Fred Russell and Lilian Held, musicians and dancers; Mart and Pep, hand to hand balancers and tumblers; Miss Jenny Lynwood, Scotch vocalist; Miss Rose Cambry, Australian comedienne; Mr. Edward A. Ford, facial contortionist and reciter; Rohde and Roche; Walter Ellis and company in "The Sleep Walker"; and pictures.

JARROW.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. & M., Mr. Hugh Robertson; A. M. & S., Mr. T. Edward Evans.—This week (twice nightly): "The Gambler." The company includes: Scott Leighton, Dane Clarke, Leonard S. Harrison, Frank H. St. Clair, Frank Caffrey, Edgar Charles, Jack Hancock, Joe Black, Alf Wright, Willis Collins, John Allen, Maisie Hanbury, Jessie Scott, and Constance Medwyn. Next week: "The Indian Scout."

KEIGHLEY.

HIPPODROME.—L., Hippodrome, Keighley, Ltd.; M., Mr. G. S. Holmes.—This week (twice nightly, and Saturday matinée, 2.30): Andie Caine presents "Dick Whittington and His Cat." Cast includes: Maisie Gerrard, Katie Cooper, Sisters Florencie, Hawthorne Thwaites, May McPherson, George Cooper, Bobby Burns, Charlie Cork, Murus Comedy Four, Dixon Cooper, Frank Royston, Andie Caine. Next week: "The Arcadians."

KETTERING.

COLISEUM.—P., Messrs. Thompson Bros.; M., Mr. A. Thompson.—This week: The Six Lodores; Frank Tolbey, comedian; the Three Osrams, dancers; the Kavanaghs, comedy jugglers; and pictures.

PALACE.—P., The Palace Theatres, Ltd.; M., Mr. J. G. Covington.—This week: The Toladonas, musicians; Chas. Clifford, entertainers; the Three Storks, gymnasts; and pictures.

KIDDERMINSTER.

OPERA HOUSE.—Licensees, Messrs. Somerold and Co.; M., Mr. Frederick C. Ewing.—First three nights of the week: Messrs. Robert McDonald and F. B. Young's company, in "The Dollar Princess." The company includes: Mr. Chas. Midgley, Mr. Norman Bowyer, Mr. Austin Green, Mr. Frank Denis, Mr. Ernest Teirce, Mr. Bert Darrell, Mr. Huntley Gifford, Mr. Derick Knowles, Miss Iris Beresford, Miss Wallace Reville, and Miss Margaret Carter.

KILMARNOCK.

KING'S THEATRE.—L., Lillie Williams and Co.; M., Mr. Thomas Rodger.—Mr. Percy Williams' company in "The Fatal Wedding." The company includes: Messrs. Frank Liston, Gerald Kennedy, Harry M. Vernon, J. K. Woods, Fran'. Ashley, and J. Newton, the Misses Maud Warburton, Beatrice Shirley, Blanch Huber, Ma" rie Aubrey, and a troupe of children.

PALACE.—M., Mr. J. Cummings.—This week: Miss Cissie Cameron, comedienne and dancer; Sandy Donaldson, Scotch comedian; James Willard and company in "The Ace of Hearts." On Thursday and remainder of the week, "The Mousmé."

LANCASTER.

GRAND THEATRE.—L. & M., Mr. Stanley Rogers; A. M., Mr. Tom Braithwaite.—This week (once nightly): Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, Messrs. Dan McCaw and Charles W. Dockwray present "The Middleman." The company includes: Charles W. Dockwray, Julian Cross, Hurbert Barwell, Douglas G. Murray, Percy Russell, William Hutchings, Leslie Nutter, Reginald Dainton, Robert Steele, Henry Coleman, George Foreman, George Warden, May St. George, Mary Batrick, Olive Duncan, Margaret Penson, Dolores Fitzgerald, Vere Baker. T. M., Mr. Dan McCaw. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday: Mr. W. Payne Seddon presents "The Girl in the Train." The company includes: Mr. Claude Cameron, Mr. Bertram White, Mr. Walter Wichlow, Mr. Ralph Forster, Mr. Claude Hogg, Mr. Barry Rayne, Mr. Edward Owen, Mr. Howard Read, Miss Winifred Dunkley, Miss Elsie la Barte, Miss Lily Henry, Miss Lilian Renad, Miss Violet Rangdale. T. M., Mr. Bay Russell. Next week: "The Death or Glory Boys."

HIPPODROME.—P. and M., John Porter.—This week (twice nightly): Jack Edwin, comedian; the Balmorals; Three Leonas, acrobats; Fred Ward, comedian, assisted by little Lady Selina; Corman's Juveniles, vocal, dancing,; and pictures.

LEAMINGTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. & D., Mr. C. S. Birch; M., Mr. H. Wenly Birch.—This week: The Kinemacolor and Reg. Wishart, society entertainer and illusionist.

COLONNADE THEATRE DE LUXE.—M., Mr. Harry Plant.—This week: Haley's Garden of Girls; Kavardos, juggler and cannon ball performer; and pictures.

LEEDS.

GRAND THEATRE.—P., the Theatre and Opera House (Leeds), Ltd.; M. D. and Licensee, Mr. John Hart; Mus. D., Mr. Henri Jaxon.—This week (once nightly): Mr. John Hart presents "Humpty Dumpty." The company includes: Ella Retford, and all star cast. Matinée, Tuesday and Saturday, at 2. On Friday evening, by permission of Mr. John Hart, benefit to Miss Ella Retford.— The pantomime, "Humpty Dumpty": Clarice Mayne and "That"; Bob Selvidge and Bros. Smart; Winnie Day, dancer, assisted by Annie Solenski; Alice White, principal boy; Whit Cunliffe, comedian; Tom Costello; Gordon and Elgin, rag-time dancers; Thora, novelty ventriloquist; and others. Next week: "Find the Woman."

THEATRE ROYAL.—P. Francis Laidler; G. M., Mr. Nathaniel Hepworth; A. M., Mr. George H. Almond.—This week (once nightly): "Dick Whittington." Matinées, Tuesday and Saturday, 2.

QUEEN'S.—P., Mr. F. W. Wood; M. & L., Mr. Charles Bush.—This week (twice nightly): "The House that Jack Built." The company includes: Miss Evelyn Major, Mr. J. Harrison, Mr. Will Judge, Little Cluley, Darby and McLester, Miss Peggy McDonnell, Miss Gertie Innes, Gwennie Vaughan, by Herself, Monte Christo, Mr. Johns, Miss Gertrude Orchard. Children's matinée, Saturday, 2.30. Next week: "The Prairie Outlaw."

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. P. C. Rowe.—This week (twice nightly): "Arme and the Girl" company, including: Cyril Kempster, Gracie Sinclaire, Dulcie Dalmar, &c. Peter and Potts, comedian and call boy; George Rae, comedian and dancer; Thora, ventriloquist; Roland Bros., balancers; the Rawsons, vocalists and musicians; Ethel Eden, comedienne and dancer; Capt. Fred Woodward's seals and sea lions.

HIPPODROME.— R. M. & Licensee, Mr. Bertram J. Brown; Mus. D., Mr. Herbert W. Lister.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Walter Howard presents "The Midnight Wedding." The company includes: Mr. Alfred Paumier, Mr. William J. Miller, Mr. Aidan Lovett, Mr. C. Quinton Fulford, Mr. W. Watkin Wynne, Mr. St. George Frere, Mr. Herbert Maule, Mr. Henry Nelson, Mr. Roland Hodgson, Mr. Joseph Ellis, jun., Miss Jessie Burgwitz, Miss Ruth Wingrove, Miss Annie Saker. T. M., Mr. Forbes Harrison. Matinée, Wednesday, 2.30.

LEEK.

GRAND THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—P., The Leek Theatre Co., Ltd.; L. & M., Mr. James Bibby; Mus. D., Mr. H. W. Geldstraw.—This week (twice nightly): The Five Tritons, instrumentalists; Len Harris, whistler and dancer; Arthur Page, comedian; and pictures.

SALISBURY PALACE.—P., The Leek Skating Rink Co., Ltd.; Licensee, Mr. Sampson Salt; G. M., Mr. George Salt; A. M., Mr. George E. Gough; Mus. D., Mr. Harold Ellis.—This week: Rich. Hayes and assistant, humorists; Alf Passmore, comedian; and pictures. Twice nightly; matinée, Saturday, 2.30.

LEICESTER.

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE. — P. & M., Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; B. M., Mr. W. J. Andrews; Mus. D., Herr Theo Klee.—The dramatic event of the season is taking place here this week by the engagement of Mr. Martin Harvey, unquestionably one of the most popular legitimate actors that has ever visited Leicester in our long association with local dramatic affairs. The engagement is also made more interesting by the fact that three evenings are to be devoted to special performances of Sophocles' "Œdipus Rex," which event has been much looked forward to. The engagement opened on Monday evening with "The Lowland Wolf," which was first performed at this theatre on Mr. Martin Harvey's last appearance in Leicester. Mr. Harvey repeated his great success as the shepherd, Manelich, his acting throughout riveting the attention of the audience, and culminating in a demonstration that necessitated his appearance before the curtain and a speech of thanks. Miss N. de Silva (Mrs. Martin Harvey), Leicester's favourite actress, also made a splendid impression as the peasant girl, Marta, her emotional powers having full scope. Her performance altogether cannot be too highly praised. Mr. Franklin Dyall makes good as the landed proprietor, Sebastian, and as the child, Nuri, Miss Annie Furrell was excellent. The other parts were capitally portrayed by Mr. George Cooke (Thomas), Mr. Albert E. Raynor (Mosen), Mr. Ernest Stidwell (Jose), Mr. Denham Muir (Nando). Mr. Alfred Ibberson (Peluca), Mr. Charles I. Cameron (Morrucho), Miss Florence Hunt (Antonia), Miss Brenda Gibson (Pepa), and Miss Bessie Elder (Maria). The play was preceded by Mr. Tom Gallon's "Aurora's Captive," in which Miss N. de Silva (Aurora Petunia Emma), Mr. Alfred Ibberson (William), and Miss Elder (Miss Dorcas Burningham) thoroughly amused the audience. "The Breed of the Treshams" is underlined for Tuesday and Saturday evenings, and "Œdipus Rex" for Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday evenings, "The Lowland Wolf" being repeated at to-day's matinée.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole L. and M., Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; A. M., Mr. P. Allerton Turner; Mus. D., Mr. J. H. Vann.—The boards are occupied this week by Mr. Tom H. Taylor's company in the sporting drama "A Criminal's Bride, the author of which is Mr. Edward Marris, a native of Leicester. Good houses are giving this interesting drama a gratifying reception.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—M. D., Mr. Oswald Stoll; A. M., Mr. Geo. F. Reynolds; Asst. M., Mr. W. Faber-Stewart; Mus. D., Mr. John W. Lowe.—Jen Latona, a clever artiste, is receiving a warm welcome here, her songs of character and humour pleasing every section of the audience; La Pia, the famous dancer, is seen in an entirely new series of pure art dances, the scenic and limelight effects being splendidly worked, her "show" also being a popular one; the Miles-Stavordale Quintette are rapturously applauded for their delightful musical entertainment on banjos and harp; the Eight Frolics, a new turn here, particularly shine in their dancing, a novel feature being the termination of their "show" with the young fellows being upside down under a platform, the lady members standing on the top, and in this way they dance in perfect time, and elicit unstinted approbation; Fred Durant and Bro. do many things, and are very amusing in their act entitled "Everything"; Henry and Liezel are funny eccentrics, and introduce among other things a remarkable leap over a large number of men; and Fred Keeton is an entertaining comedian. Bioscope pictures complete.

PAVILION THEATRE.—P., Mr. Frank Macnaghten; B. M., Mr. Joseph Lawrence; Mus. D., Mr. Fred Britcher.—Mr. Lawrence has secured two Opera House pantomime turns this week in the Right Stella Girls, vocalists and dancers, a clever, popular, and pretty bevy of young ladies, and Phil Phillips, the dandy coon, who is also receiving a warm reception. Other features are Bireno's Golden Grotto, an extremely pretty show, with gorgeous scenery and effects; John B. Dekker and Geo. R. Kahn, American character actors, who are scoring a well-deserved success in the human dramatic sketch, "Two Men"; Pietro and Leon, artistic and refined lady and gentleman gymnasts; Dainty Dai Dawn, vocal comedian and artistic dancer; and Chas. Beeby, a funny character creator. The Bioscope pictures are still a popular item.

EMPIRE.—Sole L., the New Bioscope Trading Company; R. M., Mr. Charles R. Craig.—Chas. Relph, a popular chorus vocalist, is here on another return visit. The pictures are of the usual entertaining and diversified character.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—Secretary, Mr. Rose; Hall-keeper, Mr. Stanyon.—Mr. Will Catlin's Pierrots, whose annual visits are always looked forward to with pleasure by the Leicester public, of which town Mr. Catlin is a native, opened their season before a large and most enthusiastic audience on Monday. They have the biggest répertoire of any seaside troupe that goes on tour, and their originality in concerteds, sketches, &c., seems endless. The whole entertainment is most refined, and the various artistes, of which there are a goodly number, appear to be great favourites.

LEIGH.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole L., Messrs. F. Gould and G. Jordon; G. M., Mr. Geo. Jordon; Mus. D., Mr. Jas. Haydock.—This week: Wm. Maclaren and Miss Lily C. Bandmann's company, in "Claudian." The company includes: Mr. William Maclaren, Mr. Ulick Burke, Mr. Basil Mitchell, Mr. Douglas Earle, Mr. Weston Hubbard, Mr. Cecil Manyard, Misses Lovell and Boyce, Mr. Pat Branigan, Miss Dudley Herbert, Miss Pamela Hodson, Miss Ada Crofte, Miss Mona Crofte, Miss Rose Moore, Miss Amy Forbes, Miss Merival Rosebrook, and Miss Lily C. Bandmann.

GRAND THEATRE AND HIPPODROME, LTD.—S. & A. M., Mr. Wm. Woolstencroft.—This week: Mr. Marcus Draper and company, in "The Christian." The company also includes: Mr. R. C. Fletcher, Mr. Edward Watson, Mr. A. H. Clarke, Mr. Alex. Forbes, Mr. Chas. Langton, Mr. E. Hutter, Mr. Norman E. Purnell, Mr. Chas. Harris, Mr. Sidney L. Silvester, Miss Pearl Ray, Miss Ivy May Clarke, Miss May Harris, Miss Nellie Murray, Miss Winifred Peters, Miss Mary Bronton, and Miss Barbara Wallace. Matinée, Monday, 2.30.

LEITH.

GAIETY THEATRE.—P., Mr. F. R. Graham-Yooll; G. M., Mr. R. M. Stratmore; Mus. D., Mr. John Crossley.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Harry McKelvie's pantomime of "Mother Hubbard," with Mr. Peter Bermingham, Miss Maggie Fraser, Miss Edie Haley, Mr. J. E. Stephens, Mr. Chas. Jackson, Messrs. Sam and Jack Lavelle, and others in the cast.

LIMERICK.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Mr. George Victor Fogerty; B. M., Mr. Harry Fogerty; Conductress, Mme. Marie Burdette.—This week: Miss Agnes Molteno, in "A Dolly and a Coach," supported by Miss Eileen Land; violin snatches from the masters by Miss Hanrahan; Mr. Frank Goggin, the humorist and monologist; and pictures.

RINK PICTURE PALACE.—P., The Limerick Rink Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Edw. Kidd.—This week: Mr. Frank Land, Irish baritone; and pictures.

LINCOLN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Messrs. W. Payne Seddon and Pope.—This week (twice nightly): Miss Ethel Van Praagh and Mr. J. Edward Whitty present "Caste" Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday; Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, "Facing the World Alone." The company includes: Mr. J. Edward Whitty, Mr. Guy P. Ellis, Mr. A. Austin Leigh, Mr. Stuart Chedburn, Mr. Harold Ford, Mr. Alfred Stannard, Miss Flora Hastings, Miss May Neilson, Mr. Richard Wheldon, Mr. Guy P. Ellis, Mr. J. Corless, Mr. Harold Ford, Miss Flora Hastings, Miss Dorothy Dewhurst, and Miss Ethel Van Praagh.

PALACE.—Sole P. & G. D., Mr. Frank Macnaghten.—This week: Chas. Torbay, comedian; Wheeler and Berkeley, in "The Toff and the Taxi"; Mona Warwick, the little star; Couqelli, mimic; Tom Purslow, comedian; Sisters Robertson (Elsie and Gaye), in character songs; Barney Armstrong and Kelly, comedians.

LIVERPOOL.

ROYAL COURT.—P., Robert Arthur Theatres Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. F. W. Wyndham; G. M., Mr. George T. Minshull; A. M., Mr. Arthur Lawrence; Mus. D., Mr. Jullien H. Wilson.—The very successful "Tommy Tucker" pantomime will cease on March 1.

SHAKESPEARE.—M. D., Mr. W. W. Kelly; A. M., Mr. John Gaffney.—On Saturday next the pantomime, "Jack Horner," will be among the things of the past.

ROTUNDA.—M., Mr. M. Montgomery; A. M., Mr. Fred Coles; Mus. D., Mr. F. Thompson.—Good business has been done here this week with "Through Death Valley; or, The Mormon Peril," presented in good style by Mr. Frank Bertram's company. As Jim Myddleton, Mr. P. Barry Lewers acted with fine dramatic effect, and found great favour; Mr. Arthur S. Pitt held the rôle of Noah Catchpole with distinction; as Jack, Mr. W. H. Pointon afforded every satisfaction; the Bess Hamilton of Miss Amy Hardcastle was charming, and earned for that artiste considerable commendation; the character of Kitty Cahill was excellently handled by Miss Nelly V. Warden; Mr. Frank Bertram distinguished himself as Pat Cahill; and other parts were adequately held by Miss Winifred Haynes (Florrie), Mr. David Douglas (Dan Hamilton), Miss Cecelie Fisher (Madeline), Mr. Tom Owen (Isaac), and Mr. Peter H. Gardner (Jasper).

REPERTORY.—G. M., Mr. Basil Dean; B. M., Mr. T. J. Pigott; Mus. D., Mr. Joseph Smith.—A second week of "Strife" has met with great success.

KELLY'S.—L., Mr. W. W. Kelly; A. M., Mr. Reginald Grant; Mus. D., Mr. J. A. Gardner.—The attraction here this week has been "The Prisoner of Zenda," sent by Mr. D. Forbes Russell. It has been received with much satisfaction by large audiences. Mr. Fred D. Daviss supplied a fine study of Prince Rudolf; as the Princess, Miss Dorothy Overend acted with a charm and grace which were pleasing; the character of Michael was ably presented by Mr. Arthur Gibbons; as Captain Heutzen, Mr. Edmund Blake showed a deal of spirit; Miss Kitty Crichton impersonated Antoinette in able manner; Mr. Charles Leighton made a capital Colonel Sapt; and among other strong supporters were Mr. Lionel Yaldwyn (Detchard), Mr. George Wyley (Lord Topham), and Mr. Gerald Alexander (Strakeney). The play was mounted in first-class style.

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. George Manners; Asst. M., Mr. Arthur Hicks; Mus. D., Mr. George M. Saker.—Top of the bill here this week was May Moore Duprez, the Dutch comedienne, who afforded her admirers much satisfaction; Reynolds and Donegan received rounds of applause for their really good show of rapid skating and dancing; Hart and Johnson were in capital form, and greatly delighted everybody with their own vocal compositions and stories; Amos Haward, a coloured dancer, met with approval; the Milandro Quartet provided a pleasing musical entertainment; Dion Wade, as a comedian and mimic, was a good turn; the Sisters Lyndon sang and danced neatly; and "The Visions of Venus" tableaux were very artistic.

LYRIC.—L., The Liverpool Lyric Theatre Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Henry C. Arnold; Mus. D., Mons. R. Klasse.—The principal feature of the programme this week was the interesting entertainment presented by Signor Arvi, a clever illusionist, who introduced many new tricks which completely mystified his audience; Daisy Griff at the piano, and with her eccentric dancing, gave a deal of satisfaction; Della and Pley were a capital comedy couple; Jack Walsh sang some taking songs; as vocal duettists and pedestal dancers the Lannons want a deal of beating; and the Arizona Trio of novelty acrobatic tumblers, juggiers, &c., found a great amount of favour.

PAVILION.—P., Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; R. A. M., Mr. George F. Slatter; Mus. D., Mr. Fred Braham.—"Cinderella," another of Tiller's excellent pantomimes, has been delighting large audiences here this week. There were plenty of pretty girls, elaborate scenery and effects, fun, and dainty dresses, so that the entertainment all round was of a high standard. In the title-rôle Miss Nelly Grimshaw was very popular, her sweet singing and attractive presence making her a favourite; the part of the Prince

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was most efficiently undertaken by Miss Ethel Negretti, her singing of "My heart is with you to-night" being received with great applause; Miss Fanny Wallace and Miss Beatrice Grosvenor were the Sisters; a very funny Baron came from Fred Walmsley; and others who caused great laughter were Sam Kelly (Wolfie), Will and George Harrison (broker's men), and Leslie Ross (Baroness). Some excellent specialities were introduced by the Twelve Sunshine Girls, the Excelsior Troupe of Dancers and the Ten Little Blossoms.

ROYAL PALACE.—M., Mr. M. Montgomery; A. M., Mr. Frank O'Toole; Mus. D., Mr. G. Dibbert.—Here, this week, "The Lancashire Lad" has been played by the stock company to large audiences. Mr. Harry Tresham very naturally portrayed David Elmore; Mr. Sydney Grant impersonated Max Carton in strong fashion; Mr. John Davidson made an excellent Jem Wincote; a deal of fun was extracted from John Willie Wardle by Mr. Leo Montgomery; Miss Gwynne Warren pleased with her picture of Lorna Wincote; and Miss F. Melrose Millett was Jessie Wincote. Brown's bioscope showed the latest pictures.

OLYMPIA.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. E. W. James; Asst. M., Mr. D. Casey; Mus. D., Mr. Albert Moore.—Big crowds have been here during the week, the special attraction being Wilkie Bard, whose popularity was as great as ever. Among his songs were "The wriggly rag" and "The night watchman," both of which brought down the house. Mabel Costello had some popular songs, which caught on; the Romanows were capital acrobatic eccentrics; Ivan Kotchinsky gave an exhibition of remarkable whirlwind dancing; an artistic and clever musical entertainment was provided by Deszo Kordy and Co.; Charles F. Hill, who was assisted by Florian Martini, was an exceedingly droll comedian; the Cowboy Jupiters were clever illusionists; and Will Hay, comedian, pleased.

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Walter de Frece; R. M., Mr. Walter Hassan; Mus. D., Mr. Frank Stokes.—Foremost here was Mr. G. P. Huntley, who, assisted by Miss Eva Kelly and Mr. Harry Grattan, presented a neat little sketch, "Curios," which was greeted with enthusiasm; Bob King, coon singer and whistler, ably deputised for the Three Its, juvenile entertainers; the Ben Medani troupe of Arab acrobats went through a marvellous performance; Aimee Roberts gave some smart dialect impressions, which were very creditable; Potts Bros. and Co. caused screams of laughter with their trifle, "A double's trouble"; the Four Royal Scots had a novel musical act; Williams and Segal gained great applause for their graceful dancing; and Walter Williams, light comedian, was also in the list.

LONGTON.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—P., Longton Theatre, Ltd.; G. M., Mr. H. Sherriff Howard.—This week (twice nightly): The Queen's Repertory company present "Revenge." The company includes: Mr. Arthur Gordon, Mr. Henry Carlisle, Mr. F. B. Woulfe, Miss Winnie Warden, Mr. Ernest R. Allen, Mr. William Gardiner, Mr. Fred Hodson, Mr. Frank Pettingell, Miss Marie Ensor, Miss Gertrude Glanmor, Miss Amy McNeill, and Miss Edith Loraine. Next week: "The Sin of Her Childhood."

MANCHESTER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., the United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Licensee and M. D., Mr. John Hart; A. M., Mr. Edmondstone Shirra; Mus. D., Mr. C. W. Chambers.—This week (once nightly): John Hart's pantomime, "Dick Whittington." Matinées, Wednesday and Saturday, 2.

PRINCE'S THEATRE. — P., The United Theatres Co., Ltd.; A. M., Mr. George Lee; Mus. D., Mr. Chas. W. Chambers.—Mr. George Edwardes's company, in "The Dancing Mistress," follows up in brilliant style the success of "The Sunshine Girl." Miss Dora Fraser as Nancy Joyce, the title-rôle, gives a most charming performance, and Mr. W. Louis Bradfield enacts Teddy Cavanagh in his usual ingratiating style. Miss Rita Presano as Mlle. Touchet, the French mistress, is also delightful, and a dainty impersonation of Bella Peach is given by Miss Daphne Glenne. Miss Luna Love contributes clever comedy as Jeanne McTavish, in combination with the amusing eccentricities of Mr. Edward D'Arcy as Widdicombe. Mr. Harold E. Pearce figures effectively as Lord Lyndale, and Mr. Guy Le Feuvre as Baron Montalba is among those who contribute notably to the vocal hits of the evening. Many other parts are well played, and the staging is in every way worthy of the undoubted attractiveness of the piece, which is to remain a fortnight.

GAIETY THEATRE.—P., Miss A. E. F. Horniman; D., Mr. Lewis Casson; A. M., Mr. W. Roberts-Marshall.—Miss Margaret Morris and her dancing children are appearing here in a long and attractive series of solos, ballets, &c., the staple items being a comedy in one act called "Old People Young Again," "Cinderella," in three scenes, and "Monday's Child," a ballet on the nursery rhyme. Beside these, there are nearly forty character items, beautifully conceived and arranged, from which selections are made, and the entire production is one of unusual cleverness and charm. The children have been trained by Miss Margaret Morris on the Hellenic system as reconstructed by Raymond Duncan.

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—P., Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; A. M., Mr. J. Brearley; Mus. D., Mr. J. Colton.—The first visit of Miss Henrietta Schrier to this house occurs this week, supported by the Lodge-Percy repertory company, in "Under Two Flags." Miss Schrier's performance as Cigarette is a thoroughly pleasing achievement, very ably supplemented by Mr. Lodge-Percy as the Hon. Bertie Cecil, and the sinister work of Mr. Clavering Craig as Chateauroy. A benefit performance of "Camille" was announced for Friday in favour of Miss Henrietta Schrier.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; A. M., Mr. C. W. Meek; Mus. D., Mr. Edward Bleasdale.—Mr. John Tiller's phenomenally successful pantomime of "Sinbad the Sailor" (returned to the area of its initial triumphs) is delighting huge audiences at this popular house this week.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE. — P., Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; A. M., Mr. J. Mason. —Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's latest Western drama, "The Prairie Outlaw," is the attraction here. Miss Madge Douglas plays very capably the rôle of Morita, a strong rendering of Rob Middleton is provided by Mr. William Melvyn, and Mr. Ernest Vaughan is seen to advantage as the rascally Josh Hawkins. Humour is contributed by Mr. J. Russell Bogue and Mr. Cyril Dundas.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—P., Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; A. M., Mr. Edward M. Hamilton; Mus. D., Mr. C. H. Bayley.—Messrs. F. Marriott-Watson and James Ussher present here "The Man Tempted Me," a daring and attractive drama touching on the White Slave interest. Miss F. Garnett-Vayne does extremely well as Lillian Wynter; Mr. A. Norton is good as Lawyer Sharpe; Mr. G. Tempest makes a capital Duncan Wylde; Mr. J. D'Alberti capably plays the villainous Mark Wylde; Miss F. E. Florence is admirable as La Jone Diable; and Mr. J. Ablett's Reginald Varley is excellent. Mr. D. Seddon and Miss A. Gower are responsible for the fun.

EMPIRE.—M. D., Mr. Oswald Stoll; A. M., Mr. Horace Cocks; Mus. C., Mr. R. Hardwick.—Lallah Selbini and company provide a prominent section of the programme here this week in new and elaborate versions of the original Lafayette illusions, which are carried through with good effect. A curious feature is the appearance of Upmann, who grows in height and in the length of his arms, and does other weird things before the eyes of the audience. Campbell and Barber add their comedy cycling act with the usual success, and "Marked Money," an American police episode, is striking and well played. Other good turns are Alice Craven, the popular Lancashire comedienne; Randolph Sutton, light comedian; and Tom Jones, the whimsical Welsh comedian.

HIPPODROME. — M. D., Mr. Oswald Stoll; A. M., Mr. Nelson Barry; Mus. C., Mr. Alfred Haines.—Miss Violet Vanbrugh as Lady Macbeth in the sleep-walking scene provides a real tragic thrill for patrons here. She is supported by Miss Nora Lancaster and Mr. W. F. Grant. Beatie and Babs, the juvenile comediennes, are to the fore in humorous business, and another good turn is that of the Joculars (presented by Stanley Kirkby), in versatile vaudeville. The Maningos, head and hand balancers, do wonderful things, and the acrobatic comedy of the Brothers Werds is much enjoyed. Other attractive features are Elton and Edwin, banjoists; Chass Lewis, novelty ventriloquist; and Rem-Brandt, "artoonist," in a marvellous exhibition of painting by means of compressed and liquid colours.

PALACE.—M. D., Mr. Walter de Frece; M., Mr. Peter Watson; S. and Asst. M., Mr. Jesse Hewitt; Mus. D., Mr. T. H. Gagge.—The Texas Tommy Dancers, who make their first appearance here, give a series of American dances in smart style; Phil Ray, the well-known comedian, causes roars of laughter with his funny talk; and much amusement is caused by Stanley Cooke and company in a tabloid version of that farcical comedy, "The Man from Mexico." Ernest Scharff proves himself to be a very versatile musician in a delightful scena, "In the Music Store"; Spissell Bros. and Mack are clever knockabout acrobatic eccentrics; the Three Lyres, musical comedy comedians, make a big hit with some smart business; Fields and Fields, vocal comedy duo, are deservedly well received; and the Three Its are expert juvenile dancers. Up-to-date pictures complete.

TIVOLI.—P., The Tivoli (Manchester), Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Chas. A. Wilkes; M., Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes; Mus. D., Mr George Nelison.—The top star turn here is Chiffon and her Girls, a unique dancing scena of English dancers, fine exponents of terpsichorean art. An excellent turn is given by Silbon's cats, who are exceedingly well trained; Torino is an expert juggler and originator of the waltzing coin; the Milsted-Bell Trio cause much laughter in their musical farcical sketch, "Three Sharps in a Flat"; whilst other enjoyable turns are offered by Nan Gray, comedienne; the Steins Duo, in singing and dancing act; Hal Smithers, comedian; and Wyndham and Keighley, in mirth and melody. Ruffell's pictures complete. Next week: Haley's "Garden of Girls."

HULME HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. William Henry Broadhead and Son; R. A. M., Mr. Fred Dry; Mus. D., Mr. Harry Walker.—Barnard's dog and monkey actors are exceedingly good in the one-act pantomime, "A Hot Time in Dogville," the performance being unique; another excellent turn is that of the Lilly Pearl and Leslie Bell company, who present the comedy vaudeville, "A Bit of String," with great success; Austin Rudd, as usual, scores with his droll songs; Alman Correze, the famous Danish athlete and herculean juggler, ably assisted, goes through a smart performance; the Aerial Budds are seen to advantage in a daring trapeze act; and other very good items are those of the Croisit Trio, French acrobats, in sporting scena, "From the Time of the Crusaders"; Ella Strada and Ferrers Lord, in "Gems of Harmony"; Victor Kelly, a capital comedian; and Kittie Cameron, a pleasing comedienne.

ALHAMBRA, OPENSHAW.—L., The Alhambra, Ltd.; G. M., Mr. Arthur S. Evanson; Mus. D., Mr. J. Harney.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. William Bourne's play, "Man to Man," is the attraction here, well presented by Messrs. Edward Lloyd and Clifford Bown's company. Mr. Clifford Bown is excellent as the convict, Bill Burkley; and as Ethel Maythorne Miss Beatrice Hone plays with nice feeling. Other principal parts are well sustained by Mr. J. Halstan Cremmens, Mr. Stanley Vine, Mr. Dennis Clyde, Mr. Chas. Stacey, Mr. Bruce Williams, Miss Lillian Murray, Miss Agnes Kingston, Miss Alice Newton; whilst able support is given by Miss Kathleen MacMahon, Mr. Robert C. Ryder, Mr. Alfred V. Grey, Mr. Allen Hudson, and Mr. George Newton. The play is excellently mounted.

KING'S THEATRE, LONGSIGHT.—P., Messrs. W. H. Broadhead; A. M., Mr. Jas. A. Trippett; Mus. D., Mr. David L. Booth.—Mr. John Tiller's successful pantomime, "Ali Baba," is here, playing to full houses. The company includes: Freddy French, Nelly Rodney, Jessie Gerrard, E. J. Barker, Willy Amstell, Taggart Craughan, Edith Jefferies, Truro and Breece, Lulu Street, Clara Marr, Nora Claire, Kitty A. Edwards, Lulu Binns, Jessie McLeod, Annie Garnett, Olga Cuthbert, and Elsie Smith. Special dances by the Twelve Merry Mascots.

LESLIE'S PAVILION.—P., Mr. Harry Leslie; A. M., Mr. George Phillips.—Here the popular Lancashire character comedian, Teddy Whittle, is very much to the front; and Miss Emilie Shepherd, operatic soprano, is delighting good audiences. A fine series of pictures is also shown.

KING'S HOTEL, OXFORD-ROAD.—R. Davies, Proprietor.

MANSFIELD.

GRAND THEATRE.—P., The Mansfield, Sutton, and District Theatres, Ltd.; M. D., Capt. Cecil Clayton.—This week: Mr. Ernest E. Norris' company in "The Walls of Jericho." The company includes: Misses Ray Parry, Eily O'Donohoe, May Hobson, Marjorie Cutterbuck, Mary Kingsley, Beryl Paul, Agnes Brucesmith, Gertrude Le Sage, Messrs. Ernest E. Norris, Edwin Wheeler, Philip Calney, R. Watt, Chris. A. Olgar, Jack Hellier, Gerald Norden, C. Dashwood, Frederick Valder.

THE HIPPODROME.—P., The Mansfield, Sutton, and District Theatres, Ltd.; G. M., Capt. Cecil Clayton; R. M., Mr. F. Lantree.—This week: Hall and Wilson Trio; Miss Amy Bellwood, comedienne and dancer; Mr. Harry Whitmark, comedian; and pictures.

PALACE ELECTRIC THEATRE. — P., The United Electric Theatres, Ltd.—This week: Clown Argo, animal mimic; Ford Williams, Bass Baritone; and pictures.

MARGATE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—M., Mr. Frank Weathersby.—This week (once nightly): "The Witness for the Defence." The company includes: Mr. Roland Daniel, Mr. Alec Alves, Mr. George Delaforce, Mr. S. P. Goodyer-Kettley, Mr. F. Maitland Stapley, Mr. Reginald C. Harvey, Miss Holder, Mr. Ernest Cardoss, Miss Nellie Metcalf, Miss Elsie Roberts, Miss Dorrie Roberts. T. M., Mr. Roland Daniel. Matinée, Thursday, 2.45. Next week: "The Blindness of Virtue."

HIPPODROME.—P., South of England Hippodromes, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Walter de Frece; R. M., Mr. James Mayall.—This week (twice nightly): Messrs. Sydney Bransgrove and N. C. Slaughter present "Caste." The company includes: Mr. Fletcher Lightfoot, Mr. Charles Groves, Mr. Lionel Howard, Mr. Louis Palgrave, Miss G. Sterroll, Miss Bertha Northam, Miss Beatrice Marsdene.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., The South Wales Entertainments, Ltd.; G. M., Mr. J. W. Wilkinson.—This week: Mr. F. R. Benson's company (South) in "The Merchant of Venice," "Romeo and Juliet," "As You Like It," "Macbeth," "The School for Scandal," and "Othello." The company includes: Messrs. Henry Baynton, Jack Twyman, George Manship, Hugh Eldred, F. J. Richardson, Arthur Keane, Douglas Kuberry, Theodore Heline, Leonard Parish, Lawrence Cecil, Kenneth F. Wicksteed, and Misses Kate Turner, Hilda Dene, Rosalind Grey, Violet Wilkinson, Mollie Lloyd, Helen Smith, and Hilda Dene.

TEMPERANCE HALL AND CENTRAL CINEMA.—G. M., Mr. Israel Price.—This week (twice nightly): Sie Tahar's Arab acrobats; Victoria Campbell, vocalist; Madame Thompson Wood presents Daisy and company in scena, "The Juveniles of the Day"; Willie Allan, Scotch comedian; O'Brien and Bury, patter comedians; the Wells Troupe of gymnasts; and pictures.

MEXBOROUGH.

HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. G. W. and G. E. Smith; M., Mr. W. L. Knight; M. D., Mr. G. W. Simpson.—This week: Gerano, juggler; Sumikio, mimic; Raymond and Ivy, entertainers; Charles Mildare, whistler, in "The Missing Bird"; Blanche Haddon, vocalist; Gerbola Trio, acrobats; and pictures.

EMPIRE PALACE.—P., Empire Palace (Mexborough), Ltd.; M. D., Thomas E. Fox and A. Cunningham; R. M., George Beverley.—This week (twice nightly, matinée, Tuesday, 10.30).—Three Flying Winskills, gymnasts; T. C. Eric, ventriloquist; and pictures.

MONTAGU ARMS.—Prof. House. Proprietor, Mr. F. J. Law.

MIDDLESBROUGH.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—L., Mr. J. Charles Imeson; A. M., Mr. C. C. Imeson.—This week: The O'Mara Opera Co. present: On Monday, "The Huguenots"; Tuesday, "Carmen"; Wednesday, "Tannhäuser"; Thursday, "Faust"; Friday, "Rigoletto"; Saturday matinée, "La Traviata"; Saturday evening, "Bohemian Girl." Company includes: Miss Edith Evans, Miss Kathleen McCully, Miss Anna Lindsey, Mr. Joseph O'Mara, Mr. James T. Purcaill, Mr. Kingsley Lark, Mr. William Heughan, Mr. John Henshall, Mr. Stanley Carleton, Mr. Henry O'Dempsey, Mr. Arthur Sedgley. Next week: "Bella Donna."

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Mr. J. Chas. Imeson; M., Mr. G. Imeson.—This week: "The Silver King," presented by Messrs. Polini and Melford's company, which includes Messrs. N. Pilsener and A. Baxter, Mr. P. Abutt, Mr. F. Allwood, Mr. Henry Littlejohn, Master Rodney, Mr. J. O. Smith, Mr. B. Fishor, Mr. I. V. Harte, Miss Margaret Cloud, Miss Fanny Binstead, Miss Edith Benson, Miss Ellen Foster, Miss P. Mackey, Mr. Arthur H. Rooke, Miss Roberta Pulleyne, Mr. Alfred Terris, Miss Dorothy Douglass, Mr. H. Elliott-Ball, Mr. Arthur Wright, Mr. Raymond Le Caudby, Mr. Fred May, Mr. Leslie Ellis, Mr. Stanley Terran, Mr. J. Falkener, and Messrs. A. Fry and F. Rodgers.

EMPIRE.—M., Mr. W. Ker Chatto.—This week: Closed.

HIPPODROME.—P., Mr. T. Thompson; M., Mr. F. Parker.—This week: Banjohna, Hindoo basso; Palermo and Chefolo, conjurers and illusionists; and pictures.

MUSSELBURGH.

LOGAN'S PICTURE PALACE.—Sole L. & G. M., Mr. W. J. Logan.—This week: Billy Bracey, the ideal coon; O'Connor and Traynor, comedians and knockabouts; Minnie Moore, comedienne and dancer; and pictures.

PAVILION PICTURE PALACE.—P., The Scottish Cinematograph Co., Ltd.; R. M., Mr. Albert J. Ratley Wadman.—This week: Geordie Lackie, comedian; Janette Paterson, comedienne; Thora Davies, Welsh ballad vocalist; and pictures.

NEATH.

VINT'S NEW HIPPODROME.—P., Vint's Theatres, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. A. J. Noice; G. M., Mr. Arthur Brogden.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Andrew Melville presents "Driven from Home." The company includes: Mr. Henry Scatchard, Master Wilkins, Mr. F. Livingstone, Mr. H. Coade, Mr. G. Pike, Mr. G. Thomas, Miss Doris Grahame, Miss Edith Leslie, Miss Dora Hargreaves, Miss A. Williams, Miss F. Wilson, Miss Madge Muriel, Miss Eva Norman, Mr. George Mitchell, Mr. Francis Everard, Mr. Harry Penn, Mr. William Bradford, Mr. George Lawrence, Mr. Arnold Winters, Mr. Tom Dyson, Mr. F. Bates, Mr. Henry Helling, Mr. Graham Arthurs, Mr. G. Hammond Asquin, Mr. Rawden Vivian, Mr. H. Bartley, Mr. G. Dyson, Mr. Harry Cornwall, Mr. W. Fortescue. T. M., Mr. Francis Everard. Next week: "King of the Gipsies."

GNOLL HALL.—P., the Gnoll Picture and Variety Co., Ltd.; G. M., Mr. Vivian Aldridge; Mus. D., Mr. G. M. Butt.—This week (twice nightly): Ruhart, comedy parodist; K. Prinella, Neapolitan minstrel girl; the Five Bombays, singers and dancers; pictures. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.30.

VINT'S PALACE.—P., Vint's Theatres, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. E. Gilley; G. M., Mr. Arthur Brogden. —This week (twice nightly): Sid Bedford and company present "The Second Mrs. Chester"; Little Marie Carpenter, child comedienne and dancer; Land and Cross, vocal comedy artistes; pictures. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.30.

NELSON.

GRAND.—L., Mr. W. C. Horner; M., Mr. H. S. Parker.—This week: Messrs. M. Montgomery and E. C. Jazon present Jazon's "Cinderella, and the Little Glass Slipper." The company include: Mr. George Norton, Mr. Ennis Parkes, the Antipons, Ryde and Beeman, Miss Rhoda Ring, Miss Gertie Douglas, Miss May Godfrey, Miss Linda A. Arthur, Miss Ethel Brailsford, and Mr. Leo Fields.

PALACE.—L. & M., Mr. J. S. Livesey.—This week (twice nightly): "Yuma," and company.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Messrs. The Robert Arthur's Theatres, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. F. Teale Lingham.—This week: Mr. Graham Moffat and company, in "A Scrape o' the Pen." The company also includes: Mrs. Moffat, Miss Millicent Evans, Mr. Watson Hume, Miss Margaret Noble, Miss Mattie Maclellan, Mr. Will Jaxone, and Mr Robert Purdie.

PALACE THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. T. W. Rowe; R. M., Mr. E. B. Clark.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Walter Howard presents "The Lifeguardsman." The company includes: Mr. Ernest H. G. Cox, Mr. Charles Whitlock, Miss Elsie Garnham, Mr. Lionel Bute, Mr. Max Wakeman, Mr. Melville Chiswell, Mr. J. G. Maine, Mr. Wilfred Graham, Mr. W. S. Hardy, Mr. George Lawrence, Mr. Edward Grey, Mr. A. E. Shuttleworth, Mr. E. A. Linnecar, Miss Florence Williams, Miss Eileen Gerard, Miss Miriam Pritchett. T. M., Mr. W. S. Hardy. Next week: "Cinderella."

EMPIRE.—P., Moss', Ltd.; R. D., Mr. Richard Thornton; M., Mr. J. W. Kilgour; Mus. D., Mr. J. W. Dawson.—This week: Eugene Stratton, the ideal coon; Bob and Jennie Leonard, comedy artistes; Harry Blake, comedian; the Melody-Makers, in "The Burglar's Dream"; Ethel Loftus, character comedienne; Dora Lyric, chorus comedienne; Wilfred Burnand, character impersonator and impressionist; Cooper and Lait, in vaudeville mixture; Wild, Willie, and West, acrobatic comedians; and pictures.

PAVILION.—P., The Pavilion, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. W. Parham Wells; Mus. D., Mr. Arthur E. Breakwell.—This week (twice nightly): Liane D'Eve, Parisienne; Bell and Merton, in "A Wee Scotch Caddie"; Brothers Russell, comedians, dancers, etc.; J. W. Darley and company, "The Giles in Town"; the Goodalls, double somersault artistes; Arthur Woodville, comedian; Harry Marlow, in "The Insurance Act"; Verno and Voyce, singing comedians; and pictures. Matinée, Tuesday, 2.30.

NEWPORT.

LYCEUM.—L. & M., Mr. Sidney Cooper.—This week: Mr. Geo. Dance's company, in "The Whip." The company includes: Messrs. Bert Golday, Jack Lennon, Frank Powell, Ernest James, Geo. P. Polson, Frank Henry, H. Campbell, Denis Renton, Lawrence J. Lawrence, Arthur Nicholes, Leslie Jarvis, Robt. Shenford, R. Austin, Robt. H. Nash, Fred Elkington, Henry Walker, Misses Naomi Neilson, Barbara Allen, Julie Kennard, Violet Roberts, Violet Lindsay, Louie Brett, Edna Earle, Agnes Hewett, Mabel Milne, and E. Dickenson. Next week, "The Middleman."

NORTHAMPTON.

NEW THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. Walter T. Simmons; R. M., Mr. Percy H. Gallagher; Mus. D., Mr. Albert Heyes.—Ethel Ward tops the bill this week with the new and successful sketch, "Her Madcap Majesty," in which she is ably supported by Messrs. Harrington Weeks, Henry Maxwell, Lionel Scott, W. E. Chewd, Fred Kirtland and Mr. Herbert Pearse; the Crisps are a clever trio, and their singing and dancing in "The Little Deputy" is greatly admired; the Three Brothers Huxter are clever and refined acro-pantomimical humorists. Walter Stanley is an entertaining comedian; Millie Howell a pleasing character vocalist; Newman and Knight very good in a comic juggling act; and Charles Denman a good dancer.

NORTH SHIELDS.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. & M., Mr. Stanley Rogers; A. M., Mr. Horace Lee.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. J. Newton Cowling presents "The Collier's Lass." The company includes: Mr. Harry Sainsbury, Mr. Stanley Radcliffe, Mr. Kenneth Jackson, Mr. William H. Melrose, Mr. Ben Carr, Mr. Bert Johnson, Mr. John Locke, Mr. Esterbrook, Mr. George Lorena, Miss Ivy Clowser, Miss Bella Moody, Miss Adell Lidden, Miss Annie Graham, Miss Elsie Shelton. T. M., Mr. Stanley Radcliffe. Next week: "A Woman's Revenge."

BORO' THEATRE.—P. & M., Messrs. Black Brothers; R. M., Mr. Percy Gibson; Mus. D., Mr. Fred Ridsdale.—This week: Mr. George Black presents "Dick Whittington." Company includes: Miss Isa Gibson, Mr. Sam Fay, Mr. Jack Conan, Mr. Dan Rodney, Miss Gertrude Gaye, Miss Daisy Gaye, Mr. Julian, Mr. Tom Hall, Mr. Jack Colley, Miss Jean King, Miss Kitty Rhoades, Miss Maisie Grey, and Miss Freda Danilo.

NORTHWICH.

NEW PAVILION.—P., Messrs. Hamilton and Hughes; M., Mr. Harry T. Cornish; Mus. D., Mr. Arthur W. Parry.—This week: Salt Bush Bill, Australian stockwhip manipulator; Harry Drew, Welsh basso; the Shannons, comedy couple; Howard Innis, entertainer; Karr and Kooney, comedians; and pictures.

NORWICH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole M., Mr. Fred Morgan. —This week: Mr. Charles Harrington's combination company in "Uncle Tom's Cabin." The cast includes: Messrs. J. E. Boehm, Raymond Wallace, Bertram Howard, Percival Young, John Gibson, Edward Leroy, H. Jenkins, W. Eversleigh, A. Aston Roe, Edie Roberts, Jack Black, A. Lewis, J. Lewis, J. Martin, J. Newton, Mesdames Hero Hathaway, Florence Tyler, Blanche Leroy, E. Stuart Graham, Annie Watson, Lizzie Allen, Mabel Bowman, Ethel Masterson, and Stella Harrington. In the plantation scene the following artistes appear: Davis Mowing, comedian; John Bradley, rifle manipulator; Carlton Bryon, vocalist; the Tennesseans, jubilee singers; Fred Davis, buck dancer; Arthur Coombes, banjoist; Dinah Dixie, vocalist and dancer; W. H. Moore, basso; Lilian Danby, soprano; also contributions from Mesdames Allan, Annie Moore, Lilian Francis, Amy Smith, A. Williams, A. James, Ruby Roderick, and Messrs. Fredericks, Roberts and Smith, Early Bryan and Allen, Graham, Atwell, Christian and Johnson, Brown, MEEs, Bentley, and Mowing. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.30. Next week: "The Sign of the Cross."

HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; M., Mr. Councillor F. W. Fitt.—This week (twice nightly): Mark Sheridan, comedian; Master David Page, boy violinist; Brothers Lawless, vocalists and dancers; the Mysterious Telman, in Japanese magical scena; Bess Desborough, chorus comedienne; Clyde Cooke, comedian and dancer; the Du Gros Trio, comedy gymnasts; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.30.

PRINCE OF WALES' PALACE.—M., Mr. R. A. Atkinson.—This week: The Four Armiens, in singing, dancing, and instrumental scena; Jack Osmond, comedian; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30.

ELECTRIC THEATRE.—G. M., Mr. G. F. Allen.—This week: The Three Veros, vocalists and speciality dancers; Kitty Beresford, chic comedienne; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.30.

NOTTINGHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL. — L., Robert Arthur Theatres, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. Howard Finney; M. D., Mr. John Armstrong.—The exuberant humour of "The Glad Eye" is drawing large houses this week. Mr. Stanley Brett makes an energetic and alert Gaston Bocard; and Mr. Percy Marmont as Maurice Polignac gives an entertaining and comical portraiture. Mr. W. E. Richardson is excellent as Galipaux, showing off the old gentleman's eccentricities in highly humorous fashion; the lively and audacious Kiki is interpreted by Miss Billie Sinclair with ready tact and admirable ability; Miss Nannie Bennett plays capitally as the calm and judicial wife, Lucienne; while the sprightliness of Suzanne finds its vent as submitted by Miss Enid Sass. Mr. Fred Eastman has a congenial part in Chausette; Mr. Derwent Grenville essays the lover (Ferdinand Floquet) with spirit; and Miss Ada Rothwell does well as Juliette. The comedy is preceded by "An Interrupted Divorce," played vivaciously by Miss A. Rothwell, Mr. S. C. Sinclair, and Mr. A. Dennis.

GRAND THEATRE.—M., Mr. Frank Seabrook; M. D., Mr. Sydney Twinn.—"The Old Folks at Home" is being played to appreciative audiences by Messrs. Edward Lloyd and Clifford Bown's company. Mr. Edward Lloyd invests Andrew Ross with all the attributes of a brave and manly hero, and gets valuable assistance from Mr. Basil Brabazon as Hugh Lovell; full sinister effect is given to their villainous schemes by Mr. Richard Ferris as Lord Kenilworth and Miss Edith Giddings as Patricia Bathurst; Mr. Fred Lillywhite makes all his opportunities in the part of Christopher Robin, and he is well seconded by Miss Clara Santley as Martha. Miss Claire O'Sullivan impersonates Dorothy Robin with well-conceived dramatic effect; Miss Glory Shannon is duly prominent as Bonita Durham; and excellent comedy by Mr. Bert Dench, as a sailor, comes as a welcome relief.

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. Ernest Bridgen; Mus. D., Mr. W. L. Richards.—G. H. Chirgwin is always a welcome visitor, his quiet "talks" being exceptionally good and funny; Arthur Lennard specialises in character songs, with the best of results to himself and his audience; the Four Arconis submit their clever acrobatic entertainment with commendable neatness and dexterity; an interesting tabloid musical comedy, entitled "A Night in Japan," is capitally introduced by Marie Santoi and company; Bi-Ber-Ti proves a smart conjurer, with a very clever comical assistant; Edna Morgan, fresh from her triumphs in the Royal pantomime, scores all along the line. A good account of themselves is also given by Marie Courtenay, comedienne; Kitty Prince, dancer; and Dave Bryant, comedian.

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; A. M., Mr. A. C. Duncan; Asst. M., Mr. Stanhope Butler; Mus. D., Mr. John Holman.—A charming pantomime fills the bill this week. "The Babes in the Wood" is evolved by Messrs. Arthur Parry, Harry Elliston, and Ernest Ramsay, and an excellent company exploits it. Miss Mabel Osmond looks the part of Robin Hood to perfection, singing and dancing with animation; while a winsome and attractive Maid Marion is seen in Miss Mora Hersee. The Babes are delightfully portrayed by Miss Marie May and Miss Clarice Handel. The Ruffians are a whole host of fun as played by August and September, and as keen purveyors of rollicking humour Messrs. Dan Lyndon and Harry Elliston are not to be surpassed. The drollery of the Four Minims is highly entertaining; and thoroughly enjoyable specialities are provided by Susie and Vio and the Five Yorks... dresses are charming, music tune... and scenery superb. The pantom... by Harry Elliston.

NUNEATON.

PRINCE OF WALES' THEAT... PODROME.—P., Mr. Leon Vi... Arthur Brogden; R. M., Mr. Ch... This week: Mr. George Dance's c... Quaker Girl." The company in... Jack Gray, Ken Worth, Robert... Cautley, Monti McDonald, James... White, R. Gladstone, Louis Wig... Rita Everard, Vivienne Gower,... Elsie Skillings, Doris Gray, Rosa... Buckingham, Ruby Bradfield, E... Trixie Andrews, Nellie Hay, and I...

VINT'S ELECTRIC PICTUR... Mr. Leon Vint; R. M., Mr. Chisholm... week: Graham, human marionette... Jena; Four Rays; and pictures.

OLDHAM.

ROYAL THEATRE.—P., The Old... Theatre of Varieties Co., Ltd.; G. M.... ridge; A. M., Mr. J. Hulme.—This w... Dottridge and Longden's pantomime... tington." The company includes: M... Holland, Albert Williams, Tom B... Melville, E. C. Wilkins, Doyle and G... Rallis, Misses Minnie Muir, Edith Le... Warwick, Enid Hamilton, Una Ellis... hitt, and Hetty Zillwood, and the W... Matinée, Tuesday, 2.15. Next week... guardsman."

GRAND THEATRE.—P., The Old... Theatre of Varieties Co., Ltd.; G.... Dottridge; A. M., Mr. Harry Kilrow... Mr. Geo. Dance's company in "K... company includes: Hubert Carter, E... Walter Lindsay, Philip Fuller, E... F. W. Ford, Gerald Hamer, A.... Hathaw, Geo. R. Montford, H. C.... Annerley, Dennis Wyndham, Le... Lind, Harry Drew, J. Wilson, A... Amy Fanchette, Price, Delisse,... Evelyn Ray, Cynthia Raymond, ... Nina Lyn, and Georgina Milne.... "Milestones."

PALACE THEATRE.—P., The Old... Theatre of Varieties Co., Ltd.; G.... Dottridge; A. M., Mr. E. Sharrocks... Harry O'Callaghan.—This week (twi... The Lorch Family; the Joseph Adelm... Horace Hunter and company; Reed... and Donett; Bert Earle; Webb an... Pauline Dubarrie; Rose Gower; an... pictures.

COLOSSEUM.—P., The Dobie Ele... Co., Ltd.; G. M., Mr. W. Dobie; Lee... Young.—This week: The Five Whi... Ives Trio; Judge's cockatoos; Barlow ... and pictures.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—P., The Em... of Varieties Co., Ltd.; G. M., Mr.... A. M., Mr. C. Gaston.—This week: ... and pictures.

HIPPODROME.—P., The Oldh... Theatre of Varieties Co., Ltd.; G.... Dottridge; A. M., Mr. F. Dixon.—This... Dixon, humorist; and pictures.

OXFORD.

NEW THEATRE.—P., The Oxford... Ltd.; M. D., Mr. G. T. Lucas.—This... Iden Payne and Miss Mona Limerick... in "The Philanderer," "Man and Supe... "Nan." The company includes: Mess... Payne, Esme Percy, Alfred Payne, M... Arnold Reynor, Desmond Brannigan,... Fletcher, Misses Mona Limerick, C... Sylvia Dawson, Isabel Turner, Minn... Emily Patterson. Mr. Alfred B. Cre... manager for the company.

PALACE.—P., Messrs. Geo. Leyto... Seddon; M., Mr. P. Leonard.—This... Billie Bute and Sister, vocalists; Fre... dian; Elsie Collins, comedienne; Lott... pictures.

PAISLEY.

PAISLEY THEATRE.—P. & M., Mr.... —This week (once nightly): Messrs. ... French present "The Girl of My ... company includes: Mr. Herbert L... George Arthur, Mr. Arthur Maskell,... Pringle, Mr. Claxton Turner, Mr. Fr... Mr. Edward Curtis, Mr. J. E. McCann... Allen, Mr. Charles Staff, Mr. Walter... Walter Clement, Mr. Tom Waller,... Landry, Mr. J. McGuffie, Mr. Will ... Laura Dyson, Miss Flo Davis, Miss Do... kett, Miss Elsie Conquest, Miss Marg... and Miss G. Hastings Walton. T. M., ... Leonard. Next week: The Moore an... Minstrels.

HIPPODROME.—Sole P

AN AMUSEMENTS.

(OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Feb. 12.—"The Sunshine Girl," Mr. Charles Frohman at the Theatre on Feb. 3, scored an in- ess. In this instance, not only Rubens and Cecil Raleigh, but former found favour with those ent on such matters, so the piece r. In the cast there are several es, whose names would attract natter what the play might be. the star, Miss Julia Sanderson, t in "The Arcadians" and other and who now has a capital part the Sunshine soap factory. As e sings and dances her way into her audience, and strengthens her hen there is Mr. Joseph Cawthorn, enjoys the distinction of being the actor who plays the concertina to ut is also screamingly funny as a t comedian. In the rôle of Schlump is at his very best, and the audi- et too much of him. Mr. Vernon ainess and his Indiarubber-like tickle one's risibilities, and his of Lord Bicester, familiarly known is a highly diverting performance. enport as a Cockney cook of gener- s. Blacker, to wit—makes the most opportunities, provoking much laugh- Lewis as Steve Daly, Mr. Alan n Blundell, and Mr. E. Soldene n contribute to the success of the a constant succession of tuneful rm the ear, there are graceful Handsomely staged, "The Sun- must be listed among Mr. Charles st attractive productions.

Carter began an engagement at the treet Theatre on Feb. 3, appearing Pinero's four-act play, "The Second ray." To see Mrs. Carter in this as an opportunity not to be missed, ce was not only large, but duly ap- n fact, the welcome she received oyal she won made it quite evident ing this impersonation to her reper- ad made no mistake. Mr. Brandon ed as Aubrey Tanqueray, and Mr. p as Cayley Drummle, both doing aude Hanaford was a charming he other characters were faithfully

m Hawtrey made his reappearance stage at the Harris Theatre last vived a play that had been pre- here and on the road under three mes. "The Old Firm" is its present it will be remembered that the late lden achieved success in the piece in ew years ago, it being a whimsical three acts, by Harry and Edward is all about an old inventor who t in seeking the aid of the evil one ay obtain the money he needs to ghter and himself out of their diffi- he inventor, William Hake, Mr. a delightfully humorous and sym- rayal. Miss Alison Skipworth as , Miss Maud Eburne as Rosalie, Mr. ontague as Jabez Vennamy, and Mr. ton as Harry Nicolet were very suc- eir respective rôles.

eymoon Express" made a big hit at Garden on Feb. 6, and Mlle. Gaby n a return engagement that promises er reputation as a singer and dancer, greatly improved since she first came In this attraction she wears an ex- number of beautiful "creations" , apparently changing her dress every Mlle. Gaby joins Harry Pilcer in sing- ll call the next love the first" and aby did the Gaby Glide," two lively hat won much applause. She also sings ack your love" very prettily. The welcomed several old favourites, in- Al Johnson, Ada Lewis, Fanny Brice, Ellis, and Harry Fox, all of whom ted to the entertainment in various and ays. Mr. Ernest Glendinning, too, has company, and sings a capital number chorus, entitled "The Rag-time Ex- This piece is called a spectacular farce. and lyrics were written by Joseph W. and the music was composed by Jean , while the entire production was staged Wayburn. At the end of the first act wonderful race between an automobile in. The lights of both are seen at the a mountain, and they grow larger and the descent of the steep slope is made, auto. and the locomotive come into full the stage. This is quite melodramatic, her unusual circumstance is that the s a plot that is not entirely lost as the nce proceeds. Henri Dubonet and his e divorced, and the husband leaves for celebrate his release, although he is still Yvonne. Lawyer Baudry wants to marry and so does Maurice, a poster artist, engaged to Marguerite, whom Dubonet to make his second wife, as he has been large sum of money. Yvonne is anxious to nciled to her husband, and her aunt is about the money. Finally the divorce is i, and the Dubonets are re-united. Al impersonates a coloured butler, and his d jokes are the most popular feature of rtainment. Fanny Brice appears as Mar- lady's maid, and sings a most effective "My Raggiadore," with the entire Spanish costumes. Harry Pilcer, Yanci nd the chorus dance "The Oriental Bac- " in the second act, and there are other inge too numerous to mention, this being the most magnificent productions ever the Winter Garden.

MOVE AGAINST "THE MOVIES."

New York "Dramatic Mirror" reports a scheme inaugurated by a New Orleans manager in an attempt to "get even" he picture houses.

e 'movies' had better look out," says our mporary, "for one Eugene Jackson, of New ns, will get 'em. He has an idea and it is dating. He doesn't like the 'movies'; they ruining the 'legit.' And here is what he is ng loose. He leases a local theatre and gives ciple dramatic stock performance between n and midnight. This, he says, is possible by ing two companies, each playing two plays. d here is his schedule: 'East Lynne,' 12 to 3; Hazel Kirke,' 3 to 6; 'The Octoroon,' 6 to 9. y your tickets, come when you like and stay long as you please."

t remains to be seen whether such an attempt make a stand for any time.

the Theatre Royal, Melbourne, recently, after ord run of seven weeks, Mr. Harry Corson ke was presented with a very beautiful h, fob and locket, by the American Colony. e locket contained a miniature of Mrs. Clarke argaret Dale Owen), and also the names of donors. The Clarkes are now touring New aland, and return to Sydney at Easter.

AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

MELBOURNE, Jan. 14.—PRINCESS'S THEATRE.—Sole Proprietors, Messrs. George Marlow, Ltd.—The revival of Mr. Frederick Melville's melodrama, "The Bad Girl of the Family," by the Marlow Dramatic Co., attracted a crowded attendance here on Saturday evening. Miss Ada Guildford took the part of Bess Moore, and her interpretation of the character met with the entire approval of the audience. Miss Ethel Buckley appeared as Sally Smithers, and her performance created roars of laughter. She and Mr. D'Arcy Kelway, who took the part of Sammy Snozzle, were responsible for most of the merriment of the play. Mr. Robert Inman made a manly Lieut. Richard Marsh. As Harry Gordon, Mr. Hilliard Vox presented a study of an accomplished villain. Mr. J. P. O'Neill as Barney Gordon was excellent. Other characters were capably played by Miss Renee Transwell, Miss Elwyn Harvey, Mr. P. V. Scully, Mr. Myles Hastings, Mr. Frank Rocis, Mr. E. Stephenson, and Miss Ina Alston. The play was excellently mounted throughout.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Direction, Messrs. J. C. Williamson, Ltd.; Business-Manager, Mr. E. J. Tait.—Mr. J. C. Williamson's gorgeous Christmas pantomime, "Puss in Boots," continues to draw crowded audiences. This production has in it plenty of entertainment for adults, but it is, of course, the children who are specially catered for, and there were roars of delight from juveniles on Saturday night. The amusing acrobatic act and the railway farce both caused the vast audience to rock with laughter.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Direction, Messrs. J. C. Williamson, Ltd.; Business-Manager, Mr. G. H. Smith.—Mr. Oscar Asche and Miss Lily Brayton are still starring with "Antony and Cleopatra."

KING'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. William Anderson; Business-Manager, Mr. G. H. Barnes.—"The Girl of the Never Never" is still popular at this theatre. The last five nights of the Australian melodrama are announced, and on Saturday next "My Jack" will be staged by Mr. Anderson.

RICKARDS' OPERA HOUSE.—Personal Direction, Hugh D. McIntosh; Business-Manager, Mr. Frederic Aydon.—The present programme here is one of particular interest, and it was no surprise to find every seat in the building occupied long before the curtain was raised on Saturday night. There is no falling off in the interest in the Mysterious De Biere. For upwards of an hour he entertained the large crowd with his marvellous illusions. There was an addition to the programme in the person of Mlle. Renee, an English instrumentalist. She proved herself to be a fine pianist, and played several other instruments with equal skill. With such gifts and a charming personality she was quick to win popularity. Miss Nella Webb, an American artiste, again pleased the audience, while others who appeared in successful turns were Will Whitburn, Crawford and Howarde, Albert Marini, Fred Bluett, and the Lancaster Opera Co.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Direction, Mr. Ben J. Fuller; Business-Manager, Mr. Tom Brennan. — There was a packed house here on Saturday evening. Among the large number of artistes who appeared were Fred Curran, the English comedian; Althos and Read, trick skaters; and the Knowles Musical Trio, each of whom received a hearty reception. Several new artistes are billed to appear to-night, notably Lieut. Stoff, a clever ventriloquist; and Victoria Cross, a famous singer of Scotch songs.

PANTOMIME CHORUS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—In last week's issue of "The Stage" there appeared the following advt., signed by ten members of my "Cinderella" pantomime chorus:—"We wish to tender our sincere thanks to Mr. Willie Benn for his kindness in paying our fares back to town from Maidstone on Sunday last." Of course, the insinuation contained in this is only too apparent. The facts of the case are as follows, and if you can spare room for the same, in justice to myself, I shall be more than obliged.

On Saturday morning last my manager at Maidstone telegraphed me that ten ladies and gentlemen of the chorus had written him a round robin to the effect that they refused absolutely to go on the stage on Saturday evening unless they received their fares to London. On receipt of this telegram I, at considerable personal inconvenience, left for Maidstone and called the company together on the stage before the afternoon performance. After very patiently listening to their imaginary troubles, I asked them if they had read their contracts, more especially clause 13, which reads as follows: "Third-class railway fare paid (after joining) until end of engagement by the said Wentworth Croke." I explained to them that if they had approached me in a proper spirit, and asked me if I would pay their fares back to London, I should have been only too happy to have done so, but that when they made a threat that they refused absolutely to go on the stage without their fares my back was against the wall, and as far as I was concerned they might walk back to London. In order to get the scenery back to my stores I had to take more tickets than I actually had artistes in the company, so that really in paying their fares back to London I was not being particularly generous; but in these days of industrial troubles, musicians' unions, and general dissatisfaction of stage hands at their present scale of payment, I think it is quite time someone took a firm stand, as if we go on as we are going there will soon be no theatrical managers, and no theatres; but I am glad to say that the Theatrical Managers' Association and the Touring Managers' Association, of which I have the honour to be the President, are taking a very firm stand in the matter for the good of both sides.

It appears that prior to my appearance in Maidstone, Mr. Willie Benn, the resident-manager of the theatre, told the ten strikers that "if Mr. Croke did not pay their fares to London he would do so." They, therefore, on my refusal to do so, called upon Mr. Benn to make good his promise. Of course, if Mr. Benn likes to be so generous that is his business, but at the same time the advertisement above referred to has led people to believe that not only did I not pay the fares of these ten members of the chorus to London, but that I stranded my pantomime company in Maidstone, and I may mention, although it will not interest your readers, that I have since had a request from the management of the Maidstone Theatre to refund these fares.

Apologising for the length of my letter, yours faithfully,

WENTWORTH CROKE.

47, Charing Cross-road, London, W.C.,
Feb. 18, 1913.

We were sorry to hear of the death of Mr. Garnet Walch, which occurred in Melbourne on the 3rd ult. Mr. Walch had represented "The Era" for upwards of thirty years in Melbourne, and only retired from the post a few years ago.

At the Clapham Coroner's Court, on Monday, Mr. G. P. Wyatt, coroner, held an inquest on the body of Veronica Bevan, aged thirty-nine, the wife of Edmund Russell Bevan, an actor, who died from the effects of strychnine poisoning at 51, Bromfelde-road, Clapham, on Sunday. The jury returned a verdict of death from strychnine poisoning, but how or why it was taken there was no evidence to show.

AMUSEMENTS IN SOUTH AFRICA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

CAPE TOWN, Jan. 26.—OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Leonard Rayne; Sub-Lessees, Messrs. B. and F. Wheeler, Ltd.—The last four nights are announced, and the ever-popular "Quaker Girl" will once more delight the patrons. Booking is excellent. On Monday, Feb. 3, the London Trocadero Orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Arthur de Jong, will make their first appearance.

TIVOLI.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Harry Stodel.—Another most excellent entertainment has been provided this week. The graceful acrobatic act performed by the Seymours must be given precedence. Tate and Tate give a clever display in their sketches. Miss Violet Aubin and Mr. J. L. Wintle have returned to us, and Harry Leybourne got the audience into good humour at once. Business is good.

GRAND.—Manager, Mr. Davis.—There was not a dull item in the new bill presented last night. The star turn, Marie and Billy Hart, give a blend of singing, slack wire walking, and quaint fooling. Miss Daisy Mead's répertoire contains some pleasing songs, and she will soon be a great favourite; the pictuares are all interesting.

Pagel's mammoth circus and menagerie has been doing enormous business in the suburbs, and it is without doubt the largest and best all-round show that has ever toured this country.

DURBAN, Jan. 26. — HALL-BY-THE-SEA.—Managing-Director, Mr. Edgar M. Hyman.—A controversy has raged throughout the week in the local Press concerning the identity of the special attraction, La Pia, who has achieved great success since the opening night, the 20th inst. The management set all doubts aside in offering £1,000 to local charity to any person proving that this talented artiste did not appear at the Royal command performance at the Palace, London, last year. Two special features in connection with La Pia's visit were "The Dance of Fire" and "The Spirit of the Waves," two delightful and artistic numbers which were enthusiastically applauded. The Six Palace Girls, who are on the same programme, were equally successful in a fantasy in black and white after Phil May. Earlier in the present programme the Palace Girls were responsible for a charming scena, under the title of "The Surf Bathers," in three dips—on the promenade, in the bathing machines, and in the silvery sea. Notwithstanding a general increase of prices this week business has been phenomenal. The star turn next week is Hymack, the chameleon comedian.

CRITERION THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. F. G. Tucker.—The Eight Moths, an English concert party, are the special attraction on the bill this week. They possess a style which is quite their own. There is not a single "passenger" with the party. Each artiste is a star in their particular line of business. They were a great success, and we hope for an early return. Burns and Bentley, who made their first appearance in South Africa on the 20th inst., are sure to make a big hit in every town they play. Their dancing is especially clever. The Bartz Trio are an astounding troupe of flying acrobats, and should be a star turn wherever they visit. Record houses this week.

JOHANNESBURG, Jan 27. — HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Mr. H. B. Irving's season.—"Hamlet" was produced last Monday, and the Press has hailed Mr. Irving as the greatest Hamlet of the century. His acting of the melancholy Danish prince was a superbly virile piece of work. Miss Vera Coburn made a sweetly charming Ophelia.

STANDARD THEATRE.—Mr. Leonard Rayne's season.—"The Christian" was revived last week with Mr. Leonard Rayne in his favourite part of John Storm, and Miss Eva Moss as Glory Quayle. Both performances were remarkably good, and the rest of the company aided the principals very brilliantly.

EMPIRE.—Artistes appearing this week are Miss Bertie Fowler, mimic and raconteur; Fred Elmo, burlesque comedian; La Belle Greta, comedienne and dancer; Miss Marion Scott, male impersonator; Miss Madge Temple, in new successes; Sydney James and his Strolling Players; Hanna and Le Brun, dancing act; Clarice May; Frank Halpin; and Cummin and Seaham.

ORPHEUM.—Manager, Mr. E. D. Martin. — "Les Misérables," Pathé Frères' remarkable film, is still drawing crowded houses. Artistes this week are Lillie Soutter, characteristic comedienne; Norman Osborne, ventriloquist; and the Bartz Trio, acrobatic act.

"A MEMBER OF TATTERSALL'S."

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE ERA."

Sir,—In your issue of Dec. 14, you stated that the South African rights of "A Member of Tattersall's" have been secured by Mr. Leonard Rayne.

The South African rights of "A Member of Tattersall's" were purchased by and belong exclusively to us.—Yours faithfully,

CHAS. HOWITT & A. PHILLIPS.

MR. COMPTON AT KENNINGTON.

Mr. Edward Compton, one of the proprietors of Kennington Theatre, was called before the curtain on Monday night after the performance of "Everywoman," in which he took the part of Nobody. Addressing the audience, he said he was proud to have introduced "Everywoman" to their own Kennington Theatre, and to feel that the entire production and the whole cast, including, he hoped, Nobody, had drawn from a Kennington audience the seal of approval, which, to his mind, was tantamount to affixing the hall-mark of success. He also took that opportunity to thank the audience very sincerely for the handsome support they had accorded Mr. Milton Bode and himself during the past autumn and Christmas season. He came amongst them himself and had appeared before them during the last ten months with, he hoped, some advantage to the convenience and comfort of the patrons of that beautiful theatre, of which both they and he were so justly proud. The list of autumn attractions was the finest in Greater London, and although he saw a large number of pantomimes, outside of Drury Lane he did not see a pantomime which from the point of scenery, effect, dresses, and of a fine all-round company that was better than their first pantomime of "Aladdin." They would go on as they had begun and always do their best to deserve the vote of confidence the patrons of Kennington had passed on them.

We had the pleasure on Monday of hearing Miss Mabel Mavis play on several instruments in various ways. She has made a speciality of the glassophone, and with surprisingly sweet tone she brings out with the right hand the beautiful melody of Gounod's "Meditation," composed to a prelude of Bach, accompanying herself with the left on a grand piano. On the latter instrument she obtains the full harmonies in a left-handed rendering of Thalberg's variations on "Home, sweet home." On a specially made and fine-toned xylophone, or maremba, she is quite wonderful, playing thirds, sixths, and octaves with the two sticks held in the right hand, and accompanying the melody on the piano with the left. The difficulty of such a feat can only be realised by one who has specialised with the instrument. Every solo is played with a technique and expression that betray musical gifts and culture that are rare on the variety stage.

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"DER RETTER IN DER NOT."

Comedy, in Three Acts, by MM. Von Schönthan and Presber, Produced at the Komödienhaus, on Jan. 30.

Wallboeck	Herr Paul
Strobel	Herr Impekoven
Koppelmann	Herr Baselt
Martens	Herr Leopold
Falbing	Herr Wassermann
Weinholz	Herr Krueger
Malvine	Fräulein Söneland
Baronin von Lindenhain	Fräulein Hartwig
Maguzi	Herr Kaiser-Titz
Hoppe	Herr Dedat
Schimmelberg	Herr Schilder
Wulkow	Herr Matthaes
Marie	Fräulein Orla

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, Thursday, Feb. 6.—A remarkably cordial reception was accorded to the popular collaborators' latest farce, which partakes of the nature of a satire more than anything else, and deals deadly blows at the pedantry of German classical schools. There is very little plot, the entire fun is in the dialogue, and the "situations," some of which are very amusing, although the piece is hardly of any interest to anyone outside Prussia. It is very much in the style of the satire, "Flachsmann als Erzieher," by the whilom schoolmaster, Herr Otto Ernst, which had so long a run at the Lessing some years ago. A certain duke, who has had a tendresse with a smart Viennese—daughter of a confectioner—who has been raised to the rank of Baroness Lindenhain, is desirous of placing the son, who is the result of the union, at a grammar school. This is the thread with which the authors connect all their amiable animosity against scholastic systems, and the analogy is not very apparent. The Baroness becomes a very annoying person, and is finally wedded by a wine traveller and taken out of the Duke's way. Thus the bagman furnishes the title of the "rescuer in the hour of need." This absurdly thin plot has not caused the authors a great expenditure of thought or pains, but it has sufficed to hang the satire upon. There are many exaggerations, of course, and a good deal that is superfluous, but altogether the piece may be termed successful. The capital acting would carry it over water in almost any case.

A play in verse, entitled "Astrid," by Eduard Stucken, was produced with satisfactory results at the Deutsches last week. The author is known here principally by his mysterious play, "Gawan," which was given as part of a trilogy at the Lessing. This time it is a love story that takes place in Iceland in the eleventh century; its tragic element reminds one of the Brunhilde motif, but its logic is not very conspicuous. Astrid—who is the only interesting person of all—is in love with Kjartan, and betrothed to him. During his absence in Norway, however, she is forced to wed his foster brother, Bolli. Kjartan returns, bringing with him a beautiful necklace sent by the King's sister for his bride. Finding Astrid married to another, Kjartan gives the costly present to Hrefna, and weds her, but he and Astrid cannot conceal their love for each other even then. Poor Bolli sees it, and is most unhappy about it, and Astrid—after throwing, in a fit of rage, the beautiful necklace into the flames—begins to concoct a diabolical plot against the man she loves. By every means in her power she instigates his death at the hands of his foster brother, Bolli. The unfortunate husband ultimately yields to her machinations and does the terrible deed, after which he is very justly done to death by Kjartan's brothers, who also put an end to Astrid. The play was admirably interpreted, the part of Astrid being particularly well rendered by Fräulein Dietrich. Herr Stucken was called several times on to the stage, and heartily applauded.

At the Deutsches Opera House (Charlottenburg) Tschaikowsky's interesting opera, "Eugen Onegin," is being given. It was produced here some years ago, but has never been really popular. The work is "caviare" for the people, and only appreciated by the few, who always wax more or less enthusiastic. The interpretation at the Deutsches Opera House was good in every way, and the reception was extremely cordial.

"DIE GROSSE LIEBE."

Play, in Three Acts, by Heinrich Mann, Produced at the Lessing Theatre, on Feb. 8.

Liane Loewen	Fräulein Durieux
Alice	Fräulein Marion
Frau Huller	Fräulein Sussin
Frau Benedikt	Fräulein Loffen
Hofrätin Loewen	Fräulein Eberty
Lisl	Fräulein Mayen
Frau von Molli	Fräulein Burger
Mrs. Paine	Fräulein Gernod
Eine dicke Dame	Fräulein Albrecht
Gassner	Herr Stieler
Duca di Folina	Herr Sauer
Türk	Herr Reicher
Fürst Ataxine	Herr Marr
Fritz	Herr Forest
Conte Ronda	Herr Loos
Franz	Herr Paschen
Kokotte	Fräulein Mewes
Mandl	Herr Ziener

BERLIN, Thursday, Feb. 13.—The author, who is known and respected for his writings, has tried his hand at drama for the first time, and truth compels me to say that the experiment was not particularly successful. The reception accorded to his play was one that could afford no satisfaction to an author, respectful applause giving way finally to boredom, and, at the close, to distinct opposition. There are so many incidental episodes that the whole is confusing, while the main plot interests the average theatregoer not at all. The heroine is Frau Liane Loewen, a married woman in good society; she is not unhappy in her marriage, and has a daughter as well as a very good husband, but she is a complex character, and longs for a "grand passion" or "grosse Liebe." She has a try with various men of her acquaintance, but none of them suit her until Christoph Gassner, a famous composer, turns up. He appeals to her, and after several tedious scenes that lead up to the dénouement, she tells him of her love. As Liane is a very fascinating sort of woman, he is drawn into her coils, but her courage is never strong enough nor her interest deep enough to really compromise herself, so that the grand love is a very tame affair after all. She sinks back into the vortex of general flirtations, that are always at the command of a charming and wealthy woman. Herr Loewen is an accommodating spouse, who sees nothing he is not intended to see, and so nothing happens to disturb the conjugal harmony. The pity is that the composer is drawn into generalities also, and will probably suffer in his art. Among the other episodes—all of which are more or less superfluous—is that of a certain Prince Ataxine, a Russian, who steals his sweetheart's jewels, and is arrested at an evening party. The interpretation was good all round, and the applause that was tendered was intended for the artistes, who were certainly to be pitied.

At the Deutsches Schauspielhaus Tolstoy's drama, "Der Lebende Leichnam" (the living corpse) was produced last week with excellent results. The audience listened with breathless attention to the powerful language, and followed the development of the remarkable plot closely. Tolstoy wrote the play some eleven years ago, but for some reason could never be prevailed to let it see the light during his lifetime. After his death it was given in Moscow, and later at the Burg Theatre at Vienna with signal success, and the Berlin Free Stage Association gave a representation of it a few years ago. The interpretation was very fine, and the piece will most likely run for some time.

Leo Fall's new operetta, "Die Studenten-Gräfin," is running well at the Nollendorf-Platz Theatre. The music is very bright, and the theme is an episode in the life of Lola Montez, Countess Landsfeld, at the Munich Court. Originally the composer intended the title to be a "musical play of olden times"; the quaint dresses and the general milieu would alone place the work above the ordinary run.

Another crisis has occurred in the annals of the Kurfürsten-Oper: Herr Palfy has been compelled to resign the management. What will be the future of this house that commenced under such promising auspices it is difficult to say, and the artistes of the company are a good deal upset.

A lecture is to be delivered at Oxford University shortly by Prof. Richard Ordynski on "Recent Phases of German Dramatic Art." Prof. Ordynski, who has been specially invited by Prof. Gilbert Murray, has studied under Prof. Max Reinhardt, and has already given lectures on the same subject.

There passed away on Sunday in Birmingham, in his 73rd year, a well-known sportsman and ardent supporter of the stage, in the person of Dr. R. A. Shipman-Prosser, father of Sara Mignon (Mrs. Rollo Balmain). Over sixty years ago the doctor was a professional singer and made his first appearance at Holder's (now Gaiety) in the above-named city. He was a great friend to the poor of his neighbourhood, and at one time had probably the biggest medical practice in the Midlands.

A very successful benefit was given to Mr. Philip Rodway, the manager of the Theatre Royal, Birmingham, on Tuesday night. The public filled the theatre, and so many artistes came from other city theatres that the pantomime, "Goody Two Shoes," had to be cut off with still two scenes to play. Those appearing included Miss Phyllis Dare, Miss Ray Ford, Little Hilda Squires, Mr. Bert Harrow, Mr. George Gregory, Mr. Marriott Edgar, Mr. Mike S. Whallen, Mr. Fred Wildon, Vittorio and Georgetto, and Mr. George Robey. Mr. Philip Rodway, who spoke his thanks to the audience and the artistes, was greeted by the band with "For he's a jolly good fellow," and was the recipient of a travelling clock, handed to him by the musical director, Mr. Harry Rushworth.

Mr. Bay Russell, the well-known comedian, met with a nasty accident the week before last. While dancing his ankle gave way. It was at first feared by the doctors that a bone in the ankle had been splintered, but on the X-rays being applied it was luckily found that no bones were broken, but that the heel bone was badly bruised and a severe sprain. He is working in his old style, and is delighting Carlisle audiences this week.

The close of the pantomime of "Sinbad," at the Edinburgh Theatre Royal, on Saturday, was marked by two presentations to Miss Tatty Leonard, who for a part of the run filled the rôle of Hinbad owing to the indisposition of Miss M. Thorne, the principal boy. The stage hands presented Miss Leonard with a silver-mounted dressing-case, inscribed to "Our Tatty, from stage hands, Theatre Royal, Edinburgh, with all good wishes." Miss Leonard was presented with a gold watch-bracelet by the members of the company, inscribed "To a dear, sweet girl, wishing her every possible happiness and prosperity in remembrance of our happy Sinbad pantomime, Royal, Edinburgh." All members of the company from stage-manager to chorus subscribed. This is the first occasion on which Miss Tatty Leonard has filled a leading rôle in pantomime, and she won all hearts by her charm and talent. She is a sister of Miss Cressie Leonard.

Messrs. Leonard and French's company in the evergreen success, "The Girl of My Heart," did very good business last week at the Metropole Theatre, Glasgow, beating the returns of preceding visits; and on Saturday night, after the duet, "Joshua," had been sung by Mr. Edward Curtis (as Joshua) and Miss Laura Dyson (as Sarah Bradley), the latter artiste was presented with a handsome silver card-case, suitably inscribed, on behalf of the Glasgow South Side Amateur Swimming Club, by Mr. O. W. D. Mackenzie (president); other representatives being Messrs. Wm. Robertson, E. N. Barland, and James Milne. Miss Dyson is a member of the Deep-Sea Swimming Club of England (Brighton), of whom her husband, Mr. Herbert Leonard, is the captain and amateur ex-champion long-distance swimmer.

In "Film Magic," the next play at the Gaiety, Mr. George Grossmith will represent an actor. The scene is laid in England, and the piece is in three acts instead of two. The scene of the first act is a cinematograph company's office in London. The cast will include Mr. Charles Maude, Mr. George Barrett, and Miss Avice Kelhan, who made such a success in "The Sunshine Girl." The dances are being arranged by Mr. Jack Mason.

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THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

"SERVIR."

Play, in Two Acts, by M. Henri Lavedan, Produced at Sarah Bernhardt's, on Feb. 8.

Mme. Eulin ..... Mlle. Gilda Darthy
La bonne ..... Mlle. Delys
Colonel Eulin ..... M. Lucien Guitry
Pierre Eulin ..... M. Paul Capellani
Ministre de la guerre ..... M. Mosnier
Général Gérard ..... M. Decœur

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, Thursday, Feb. 13.—Ever since a foolish German statesman sent a gunboat to Agadir a wave of patriotism has swept over France, which, of course, has had its effect on our theatres; and the late M. Kiderlin Waechter is indirectly responsible for "La Flambée," "Cœur de Française," "Alsace," and, lastly, for "Servir," M. Lavedan's latest venture, which saw the footlights at Sarah Bernhardt's. It is not a pleasant production. The hero, M. Eulin, is a retired colonel, a gentleman with mediæval ideas, who honestly thinks that we cannot employ our time on earth better than by cutting our neighbours' throats for the greater glory of our country's flag. We all know that the author is a great militarist—although, like all people who advocate war, he keeps on the safe side, and lets others do the fighting—but the patriotic utterances which he puts into the mouth of his hero do really not seem in keeping with this age of wireless telegraphy, aeroplanes, and other scientific discoveries. But the fiery colonel has a son, who is a pacificist, and does not believe in the blessings of war. And here again the author made a lamentable mistake. Why did he make young Pierre, the son, an officer in the artillery? Every man has the right to be an anti-militarist, but in that case he must doff his uniform and leave the army. There is no doubt that M. Lavedan wanted the contrast between father and son to be striking, but he should not have resorted to such means to produce an effect. Pierre, as a matter of course, is in constant conflict with his sire, the feud between these two men having become more embittered from the fact that Madame Eulin, although the daughter, the wife, and the mother of a soldier, sides with her son and apparently shares his ideas. To such a situation there could be only one ending, and what we expected did happen. The Minister of War calls on the Colonel and confides to him that war is on the point of breaking out. He, the Colonel, will do his duty, and when his wife and son hear that the country is in danger they, too, become at once transformed into patriots, and not only is the old Colonel satisfied, but his feelings were shared by an enthusiastic portion of the audience, who vigorously applauded the patriotic tirades. M. Guitry gave a fine account of the bluff Colonel, and he was ably assisted by Mlle. Darthy and M. Capellani.

"LA CHIENNE DU ROY."

Play, in One Act, by M. Henri Lavedan, Produced at Sarah Bernhardt's, on Feb. 8.

Mme. Du Barry ..... Mme. Jane Hading
Mme. Bignon ..... Mlle. Lionel
Rose ..... Mlle. Reinback
O'Gorman ..... M. Calmettes
Le Commissaire ..... M. Sydney
Le Geôlier ..... M. Sance
Docteur Gommier ..... M. Boëjat
Le Greffier ..... M. Prika

This is a most interesting work, wherein the author depicts, in vivid colours, the last moments on earth of Madame du Barry, Louis XV.'s famous mistress, irreverently called by the revolutionists "La Chienne du Roy"! Mme. du Barry, according to her biographers—and she had many—was a remarkably handsome, good-natured, frivolous, pleasure-seeking creature, who, having risen to the exalted position of "The King's lady," squandered the millions bestowed upon her by a doting old monarch, millions that came out of the pockets of the trodden-down French people. When his Majesty made his exit from a world which he had disgraced for so many years, Mme. du Barry settled down quietly in the country. By the time she was about fifty the Revolution broke out, and in the course of time she was arrested, tried before the People's Tribunal, and sentenced to death. In order to gain a little time she made what she called "disclosures," causing innocent persons to be arrested and executed. When, however, the fatal hour struck for her she was so frightened that she shrieked all the way from the prison to the place of execution. She even shrieked whilst the knife was falling. M. Lavedan, however, has attempted to rehabilitate her. We see her in a dismal cell awaiting her trial. Whilst she lies on her bed a visitor is introduced, a man dressed like a "sans culotte." That man is O'Gorman, an Irish priest, a delegate of one of the secret societies who assisted prisoners holding high positions to escape. O'Gorman informs her that he first offered his services to Marie Antoinette, but, as the Queen refused to leave the prison without her children he bethought himself of her, the du Barry, and urges her to fly, as she will surely be sentenced to death. When the "King's Lady" hears how nobly the Queen behaved, her own pride awakens, and she, too, refuses the proffered aid. Her pride, however, does not prevent her from being mortally afraid, and when the good priest has given her absolution and closes the door after him she falls on the bed writhing in the agonies of fright. The part of the luckless du Barry has been assigned to Mme. Jane Hading, whose magnificent acting created a deep impression. According to history, Mme. du Barry at the time of her death had lost her good looks. In fact, she had become bloated and ungainly. Mme. Hading, on the other hand, appeared before us a youthful and beautiful vision, like the du Barry when she first came to Court. But the audience had no cause to complain of this anachronism, as the great actress seemed to have stepped out of one of the famous portraits by Vigée-Lebrun, painted at Louvecciennes whilst the du Barry was still in the height of her beauty. Mme. Hading scored a huge triumph, and may be congratulated on this performance, unique in its kind.

The Comédie-Française has given us "L'Embuscade," a play by the Belgian author, M. Kistemaeckers, a simple story, cleverly told. M. Guéret is the proprietor of an important factory. Sergine, his wife, has had a boy before her marriage, a boy brought up under the name of Robert Marcel. M. Guéret is not aware of this fact, nor does Robert know whose son he is. To Mme. Guéret's consternation her husband engages Robert as manager, and things become still more complicated when Marcel falls in love with Anne-Marie, M and Mme. Guéret's daughter, who, of course, is his sister. Mme. Guéret, as may be expected, refuses her consent to this match, whereupon the incensed Robert sides with the workpeople against Guéret. A formidable strike ensues, and part of the works are blown up by dynamite. When, however, Guéret is informed that Robert is his wife's son he acts nobly. In order to save his wife's honour, he tells his daughter that he has had a son before his marriage, and that, as Robert is her brother, she cannot become his wife. The good cast included MM. Féraudy, Roy, Mayer, Mmes. Berthe Cerny, Rooinne, and Bovy.

Mr. Ernest Plumpton, who is playing Dame in Mr. Rich Waldon's pantomime of "Goody Two-Shoes" at the Princess's Theatre, Glasgow, has been engaged for next Christmas by Mr. Harry McKelvie as stage-director, and to play Dame in his principal touring pantomime. Mr. Plumpton is the son of the late Alfred Plumpton, who was for many years musical-director of the Palace Theatre, London.

BIRMINGHAM REPERTORY THEATRE.

On Monday, Feb. 15, Revival of Shakespeare's Comedy,

"TWELFTH NIGHT."

Orsino ..... Mr. Felix Aylmer
Sebastian ..... Mr. E. Stuart Vinden
Antonio ..... Mr. Frank Moore
A Sea Captain ..... Mr. Thomas Foden
Valentine ..... Mr. Ivan Firth
Curio ..... Mr. John Dunn-Yarker
Sir Toby Belch ..... Mr. W. Ribton Haines
Sir Andrew Aguecheek ..... Mr. W. Brunton
Malvolio ..... Mr. John Darnley
Fabian ..... Mr. Ivor Barnard
Feste ..... Mr. Scott Sunderland
First Officer ..... Mr. Thomas Kay
Second Officer ..... Mr. Noel Shammon
Olivia ..... Miss Margaret Chatwin
Viola ..... Miss Cecily Byrne
Maria ..... Miss Cathleen Orford

The inauguration of Birmingham's latest dramatic enterprise took place last Saturday amid much enthusiasm on the part of a keenly interested audience. It is mainly due to the zeal and energy of a small band of amateurs called the Pilgrim Players that such an innovation has become possible. The excellent work done in the past by this admirable society at the Assembly Rooms, Edgbaston, drew round them a body of intellectual admirers, and formed the basis of the present venture; and the reward for their never-ceasing industry and good fellowship is to be seen in the beautiful and tasteful building erected in the very centre of the city to further the success of their enterprise. Mr. Barry V. Jackson, a wealthy member of the "Players," is responsible for the building of the theatre, at the cost of about £15,000; and it is earnestly to be hoped that his munificence may not be in vain. The architect, Mr. S. M. Cooke, has taken for his model the famous Art Theatre of Munich, and is to be warmly congratulated on the way in which he has carried out his scheme. The touch of severity in the style has been toned down by the admirable harmony of colour and taste in decoration. The vestibule walls are tastefully hung with reproductions of old masters, prints, and pastel drawings.

On entering the auditorium, the first thing that strikes the eye is the steep rake of the stalls. The boxes face the stage. There is only one balcony, and the shape of the hall is oblong, enabling a clear view from every seat to be obtained. The stage is built out away from the curtain, after the Elizabethan style, and there is room underneath for an orchestra. When producing modern plays it is possible to take away this front piece, bringing the stage flush up to the curtain. The barrier of the footlights has been dispensed with, and light is supplied by two "limes" from the back of the stalls and two in the wings, with top lighting from the proscenium.

On the opening night proceedings commenced with the reading by Sir Oliver Lodge of congratulatory telegrams from Mr. Barker, Miss McCarthy, Mr. Masefield, and the Stage Society. Mr. Barry V. Jackson then spoke a stirring prologue from the pen of Mr. John Drinkwater, quoting the lines:—

"Here shall the player work as work he may,
Yet shall he work in service of the play."

The curtain then rose for the first performance of "Twelfth Night." It was evident that Mr. Granville Barker's production had had powerful influence on the mounting. The exquisite lighting effects, combined with the soft colour combinations of the scenery, suggested the Savoy production strongly, but there were improvements such as the delicious blue hemisphere background in the scene of Olivia's garden.

On the whole, the acting reached a fairly high standard of excellence. The Viola of Miss Cecily Byrne was a charming interpretation of the part. She was a pleasant picture of youth and beauty, and her performance was full of sweet sympathy, and a touch of imperious scorn in the more passionate scenes making it a complete character study. An original note was struck by Mr. W. Brunton in his remarkably natural conception of Sir Andrew Aguecheek. He made the man human and possible; and his reading was an excellent piece of artistic fooling. Mr. Felix Aylmer as the duke, Orsino, gave a refined portrayal of a love-sick noble, as much in love with his own personality as that of Olivia. He spoke his lines with distinction and insight. The Malvolio of Mr. John Darnley was a subdued and careful reading. The actor suggested the inward conceit of the man by subtle touches, rather than by buffoonery. Mr. W. Ribton Haines was completely successful as Sir Toby Belch. He was a toper, but still a knight; and this gallant and jovial Sir Toby delighted the audience immensely. Mr. Scott Sunderland supplied a bright, intelligent rendering of Feste, and accompanied his well-rendered songs sympathetically. Mr. Frank Moore is to be highly commended for his work as Antonio. Excellent in gesture and elocution, his manly presence made a very favourable impression. The Olivia of Miss Margaret Chatwin was a delicate and sympathetic reading of the rôle, and her graceful and refined delivery illustrated a most artistic and clever piece of work. Miss Cathleen Orford, who undertook the part of Maria, was as dainty a serving maid as one could wish, and carefully refrained from becoming too boisterous. Her acting in the letter scene was distinctly clever. Mr. Thomas Foden did creditable work in the small part of the sea captain; and Mr. Ivor Barnard appeared successfully as Fabian. Messrs. Ivan Firth and John Dunn-Yarker did all that was necessary in the parts of Valentine and Curio, and Messrs. Thomas Kay and Noel Shammon were excellent as first and second officer respectively.

At the fall of the curtain Mr. Barry V. Jackson was called upon for a speech. He said he refrained from saying a great deal; he would let the theatre speak for itself. Birmingham has now an art theatre of its own, which should go far to educate and instruct a very large following of enthusiasts in the drama, if it offers such food for thought as its first production supplies.

In view of the fact that many well-known West-End managers, and not a few of our leading actors and actresses, are ardent Horticulturists, and having regard to the fast approaching Spring season, when they will be particularly active in their gardens, the following letter, recently received by a Chicago seedsman from an actor aspirant to Horticultural honours, may, perhaps, contain some useful hints:—

Dear Sir,—Having one-quarter acre of ground, which is not used for anything but growing stones, I wish to make it into a profitable and attractive garden. Please ship me one dozen strawberry seeds, one dozen plum seeds, one concrete path (a winding one), one bee, one hive complete, ten square yards of grass, six wallflowers, with six pieces of wall, one safety lawnmower, with patent apparatus for converting it into a safety-razor. Also please send enough baskets to hold strawberry and plum crops, and side and back combs for the honey. The grass should be green, not the withered kind I see in most gardens. The seeds should be of some flavour that chickens do not like.

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PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

MISS IRENE PENSO.

Miss Irene Penso, the rising young violinist, made her first appearance in London at the Queen's Hall Promenade Concerts with Sir Henry Wood and his orchestra in 1902. Following on that she had re-engagements there, and also for the Sunday afternoon concerts at Queen's Hall. She then gave her own orchestral concert at St. James's Hall, with the assistance of Sir Henry Wood and his orchestra. After that followed a recital at the same hall, and another at Bechstein Hall. She has played at concerts with Melba, and performed the "Kreutzer Sonata" with Frederic Lamond, and orchestral concerts in

[Photo. by Hana

MISS IRENE PENSO.

Cologne with Fritz Steinbach. She has also played in France, and round the English provinces. She appeared at a concert given by the Countess of Dundonald at her own house, at which many Royalties were present, including the Queen of Spain.

She made her first variety appearance at the Palace Theatre, Shaftesbury-avenue, and was re-engaged there many times; she has also toured the provinces on the music halls, and lately played at the Coliseum, London, where she has been fortunate enough to get re-engagements. She appears at the variety theatres in Italian costume, being of Anglo-Italian nationality. She has received a violin, bow, and case, as a prize; also medals, some of which were presented by the late King Edward. Miss Penso is a pupil of M. Achille Rivarde.

"DAN THE OUTLAW."

A New Romantic Irish Drama, by Herbert Shelley, Produced at the Willesden Hippodrome, on Monday, Feb. 17.

Domanie Corrigan ..... Mr. John Beauchamp
Wolfe Mooroo ..... Mr. Charles A. White
Lord Kinsale ..... Mr. Emmet Dunbar
Dara Kinsale ..... Mr. Royce Milton
Captain Jefferies ..... Mr. Harry Johnstone
Pat Dwyer ..... Mr. Hugh Kendal
Tim O'Connor ..... Mr. Dennis Hogan
Dick Arran ..... Mr. Thomas Sandford
Ned Lismore ..... Mr. George Wells
Barney Conolly ..... Mr. Arthur Tighe
Miles Cavan ..... Mr. John Longford
Private Buckley ..... Mr. Samuel King
Private MacNab ..... Mr. Laurence Atkins
Dan the Outlaw ..... Mr. Herbert Shelley
Eileen ..... Miss Minnie Donovan
The Banshee ..... Miss Rowena Moore
Dolly Corrigan ..... Miss Kathleen Bryant
Robin ..... Miss Sophie Larkin

Who has not heard the stirring lyrical inquiry, 'Who dares to speak of '98?" Mr. Herbert Shelley not only speaks, but writes about it, and that to some purpose, in the powerful Irish drama, "Dan the Outlaw," produced by Herbert Shelley and John Beauchamp's company at the Willesden Hippodrome this week. The play is of the robust type, and is well up to the standard set by the classical Irish dramas of the past. New ground, however, is broken, and the book is far from being on hackneyed lines. One missed, with perhaps a touch of relief, the overwhelming virtues of the parish priest, and the equally exaggerated villainies of the informer.

The period is during the disastrous rebellion of 1798. Dan is a shepherd, who is engaged to the orphan, Eileen, of whom the landlord's (Lord Kinsale) son is enamoured. A notice of eviction is served on Dan, with an intimation that it will be withdrawn if Eileen consents to young Kinsale's proposals. The offer is repudiated with the customary scorn, whereupon Eileen is abducted by young Kinsale and Wolfe Mooroo, his official agent and unofficial scoundrel-in-chief. Robin, a waif, tries to save her without success, but conveys the news to Dan, who tracks her to Wolfe's house. In the meantime, Lord Kinsale has called on Wolfe to demand certain papers in the latter's possession, which he refuses to part with except for a large sum. During the quarrel which results it transpires that Wolfe has murdered the late Lord Kinsale and substituted his own son, now known by that title, for the true heir, who is Dan. Words lead to blows, and finally the spurious Lord Kinsale is killed by his father.

Dan, arriving on the scene shortly afterwards, is accused of the crime, convicted, and imprisoned awaiting execution. For fear of a reprieve Wolfe decides to murder him in his cell, and in order to gain the assistance of the new—supposed—Lord Kinsale, explains to him the real relationship between them. While they plot to destroy Dan, a counterplot for his escape is formed by Eileen, Corrigan, and his daughter. The latter succeeds just in time, and Dan, escaping, joins the rebels. Later he is wounded and found by Wolfe and his grandson, who have him again arrested. Once more he is condemned to death, but is again enabled to escape. Eileen is abducted, and Wolfe demands £10,000 for his services. A fight ensues, and the old man is killed. Dan gives information, Dan Kinsale is arrested, a full confession is found in Wolfe's pocket, and the curtain comes down to the accompaniment of wedding bells.

The rôle of Dan, the outlaw, is in the hands of Mr. Herbert Shelley, who makes a convincing and dashing hero. Mr. Charles A. White plays Wolfe Mooroo with power, and the quiet comedy of Mr. John Beauchamp's rendering of Corrigan cannot be too highly praised. Mr. Royce Milton is excellent as Dara Kinsale, and Mr. Emmet Dunbar is a good Lord Kinsale. Mr. Atkins makes the most of a small part as Private MacNab. Miss Winnie Donovan plays Eileen with all the pathos and charm imaginable, and Miss Kathleen Bryant is positively delightful as Dolly Corrigan, Robin being effectively handled by Miss Sophie Larkin. The play is admirably staged and produced.

IN the hands of Managers and Artistes throughout the United Kingdom the first thing on Wednesday morning. The Early Bird. See next week's

WEDNESDAY ERA

for The "Spot" Light, full reports of New Sketches, &c., and many other items of interest to the Professional World.

MOTOR NOTES.

BY "COUNTRYMAN."

Common Errors in Driving.

In the course of one's motoring experiences one cannot help noticing several errors committed by others which are in some instances so regularly made as to lead the uninitiated to suppose that they are not errors at all; in fact, by sheer custom many such errors have established themselves firmly in the minds of those committing them to the extent that they will indignantly deny there is anything wrong in their behaviour. To the thinking motorist these remarks do not perhaps so strongly apply. The man who carefully reasons everything out will have found out for himself the fallacy of many things which to others would not have seemed unreasonable; but, in the hope of drawing attention to some few regularly committed motoring errors, I propose to enumerate the most conspicuous of them.

As an instance of a common error I would first mention that of driving against the brakes—that is to say, slowing up the car when necessary by the application of the brakes without releasing the clutch or slowing down the engine. Such a barbarous method of driving does exist, and there are even drivers who will tell you, and firmly believe so themselves, that this is the proper method of varying the speed of the car. To rational people the idea of pulling the car forward by the engine and holding it back by the brakes will at once appear ridiculous, and such drivers as commit this error would do well to try the principle when cycling, and, when wishing to slow up, continue pedalling hard while at the same time applying the brakes. This common error is one which, of course, does considerable harm to the car on which it is committed. It obviously cannot be good for the chassis to be submitted to a tendency to be pulled in halves—by the engine pulling it forward and the brakes holding it back. Therefore, never apply the brakes without first slowing down the engine, so that the latter itself is holding back the car, or else first withdrawing the clutch.

Whilst on the subject of brakes, mention may be made of their excessive use, a point upon which I regret to say many of the taxi-cab chauffeurs—otherwise excellent drivers—are at fault. As an example of such an abuse of the brakes, one may quote the driver who, seeing a block in the traffic some distance ahead, rushes up to the same without slowing speed and stops dead by means of the brakes. By doing so he saves no time, as, were he to commence slowing down by means of the throttle immediately he saw the block he would arrive at the obstruction in time to move on with the mass of traffic—a much preferable way to rushing up to the block and waiting stationary and then moving on. The really good driver will get through the worst London traffic with hardly more than the lightest occasional application of his brakes, with a consequent great saving in the wear and tear of the mechanism and tyres.

Petrol Waste.

How many motorists, I wonder, who are very careful with the carburettor adjustments, and give great consideration to their miles per gallon of petrol, consider the question of starting as affecting the mileage? I have oftentimes noticed a motorist before proceeding to start up his engine vigorously shake the needle valve of the float chamber and flood the carburettor until some quarter of a pint of petrol has been wasted. The same motorist will repeat this procedure every time he starts, and, in a run necessitating many engine stops he will probably use half as much petrol on starting alone as he does on running. Flooding of the carburettor is very often nothing more than a habit of the driver, as, in many instances, I have found that the engine would start when once warmed equally well without flooding at all, with a consequent great saving of petrol. With the modern carburettor this is very generally so, and yet many motorists continue to vigorously flood their carburettor on every occasion when they wish to start the engine. Therefore, I suggest to those who have been committing this error, find out whether your engine will not start readily without flooding the carburettor; if it will considerable fuel will be saved. Another point worthy of mention is the apparent indifference with which certain drivers regard the continuance of knocking in their engines. Those who understand the mechanism of their motors will know that such knocking must be bad for the parts; they will also know that there must be a cause for the knocking, and a cause which is generally easily removable, sometimes involving no more effort than the retarding of the ignition lever.

So much for common errors committed in driving. There are certain frequent errors committed concerning adjustments and repairs. Chief among these I would mention the use of the cold chisel and hammer for the tightening or releasing of nuts—a trick only too common with many garage mechanics. There are spanners available for the reaching of nuts in inaccessible places, and their use is to be recommended in preference to the barbarous method of the cold chisel and hammer, which cause the nuts on which it is inflicted to get in such a state that they are often absolutely irremovable when they are required to be taken off in an emergency on the roadside. Whilst on this subject it would perhaps be well to mention that type of mechanic or motorist who is far too greatly given to the habit of using brute force, generally in the form of a hammer, when dismounting or assembling the car's mechanism. If, for instance, a bolt will not pass through the hole for which it is intended there is generally some good reason for it, such as a piece of grit having got into the hole or the bolt having become bent, and the correct way is to find out the cause of the trouble and not to force the bolt through by means of a heavy hammer. Therefore, do not yourselves, or do not let others, use brute force when dismounting or assembling your engine or chassis.

Regarding tyres, the common error one observes is that of not inflating the tubes before replacing the beads of the covers after carrying out a replacement or repair, the usual effect of which is, as the majority of motorists know, to cause a serious nipping of the tube. To be on the safe side, the tube must be partially inflated to make it take its shape before the bead of the cover is replaced.

One more instance, and I have dealt with the principal generally committed errors which have come to my notice, though doubtless there remain other fairly common errors which may occur to the reader. This is the practice of shorting the terminals of an accumulator to find out if it is fully charged or not. Such a procedure is bound to be ruinous to the cells, causing as it does an exceedingly excessive current to be suddenly "taken out" of them, and, if done frequently enough, causing the plates to buckle. The proper way of testing an accumulator is to attach a test lamp to the terminals, and thus allow a normal current to pass, and note if, after this current has passed for a minute or two, the voltage, as indicated by the whiteness of the light or by the voltmeter, remains sufficiently high. The shorting of the terminals by means of a knife blade or the like should on no account be allowed by any motorist who has any consideration for his pocket as affected by the life of his accumulator.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—I should like to call attention to the unsatisfactory condition of the electric lighting in the Underground railway. I have had occasion to travel frequently by the Underground railway during the last few months, and I have noticed that the lighting is very poor indeed. Only a few days ago I travelled from Victoria to Baker-street, and I found it impossible to read my paper in the train. I have also noticed that the lighting is very poor at the stations. I have written an article in the "Era" some time back on the subject, and I have noticed that there are still one or two places where they are using candles instead of electric lights. I think that the electric generators, and as I wish to have one installed in Worthing should esteem it a great favour if you would let me have the above particulars.

Yours faithfully,
C. A. SERSON.

ROYAL OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.

On Monday the Russian Ballet played for the first time the tableau, "L'Après midi d'un Faune." The music is M. Debussy's orchestral Prelude, "L'Après midi d'un Faune," and has been arranged as a dance by M. Nijinsky. It is a scene based on the prelude and entirely M. Nijinski's idea of the representation of the music. He represents a sort of faun, who, unable to attract the admiration of seven nymphs by his gestures, Grecian in character, has to console himself with the scarf of one of the maidens, which he takes to his "slope without a shade," and seeks repose beside it. The gestures, being entirely Grecian, hardly accord with the scenery, which is designed by M. Leon Bakst. The interview where the faun and the naiads meet is very original as to gesture, but owing to the angular positions of the hands and arms it does not give the impression of being particularly graceful or poetical. The dresses of the nymphs are very elegant in design, but the faun's costume does not carry out the generally accepted version. Nijinsky wears a very tight-fitting dress with dark patterns on it, which are somewhat inartistic. The faun is seen in a variety of curious positions, and the nymphs were exceedingly graceful in their poses; the satyrs were also proportionally grotesque. Altogether the little tableau is a work of art, and was well received by the audience; one scene was so appreciated that it had to be repeated. M. Monteux directed the orchestra. M. Stravinsky's "L'Oiseau de Feu" was included in the programme, and also "Le Spectre de la Rose" and Thamar. The Russian Ballet are as popular as ever.

For the first time this season Mr. Thomas Beecham produced "Salome" on Tuesday night before a large audience. The opera was given in German, and Mr. Beecham conducted. Mme. Aino Ackté resumed her part as the heroine Salome, after an interval of two years, and it is now a magnificent reading of the part; in addition to this Mme. Ackté executes some defined figures in the dance, which adds to the reality of the part. Her version of the Closing Scene is very powerful, and she is the exact embodiment of the woman who demands nothing less than the head of the Prophet. Herr Franz Cos resumed his part of Herodes, giving great dramatic force and gaining success by his fine voice powers. Mr. Weil, who had not much opportunity nevertheless showed that he possessed a voice of excellent quality. Mme. Langendorff made a first appearance as Herodias. The Page and Naraboth were sufficiently well interpreted by Mme. Muriel Terry and Mr. John Bardsley. The music of Strauss's "Salome" is far more beautiful than that of "Elektra," and Mr. Beecham seemed in that opinion, although inclined to allow his orchestra too much licence as regards tone, render Mme. Ackté quite inaudible at times. A great deal of beauty is evident in the utterances of the Prophet in "Salome," and the "Dance of the Seven Veils" is effective. The remainder of the cast were unable to make much of the other parts assigned them, as they are very secondary in character. There was much enthusiasm at the termination of the opera, and the artistes and Mr. Beecham were called before the curtain. The Russian Ballet will give a short performance at each of the three remaining representations of "Salome."

The Russian Ballet again delighted their audience with the exceedingly picturesque and beautiful "L'oiseau de Feu," on Thursday, Feb. Mme. Tamar Karsavina as the brilliant fire is a marvel of agility as she flashes into space and then suddenly disappears. M. Adolf Bolm makes a very imposing Prince Ivan, and Mme. Piltz was seen again in her charming impersonation of La Belle Isareyna. M. Stravinsky's music is very suggestive and helpful to the performers. M. Cecchetti made a truly fearful Demon, with his long fingers and grotesque attitudes. The other ballets were the exceedingly beautiful "Sylphides," with selections of music by Chopin which gives great charm to the dancing, especially the valse by Mme. Karsavina, and also to the mazurka danced by M. Nijinsky. The pantomime ballet by M. Fokin, music by R. Schumann named "Le Carnaval" is always a welcome feature with Mmes. Karsavina, Piltz, Maichersky and Gouluk and MM. Adolf Bolin, Nijinsky, Cecchetti, Warzinsky, and Semenoff, in their respective parts. M. Pierre Monteux conducted all three ballets, and a large audience attended. Princess Henry of Battenberg and Prince and Princess Louis of Battenberg occupied the Royal box.

The Black Cat Club will present on Monday at the New Rehearsal Theatre, four one-act playlets—"As Dreams are Made Of," by Will Stephens; "Merely Players," an operetta by Frank Macrae, with music by Miss Mary Mary; "The Feminologist," by Mariell Reed; and "The Dream Woman," by Ina Hay Howe.

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DON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

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THE MARLBOROUGH.

On Monday, Feb. 17, the Musical Comedy entitled, "A COUNTRY GIRL."

Fresh as ever, "A Country Girl" met with a cordial reception on Monday as presented by Mr. Durrant Swann's company, and the popular play goes with marvellous swing. Miss Ivy Proudfoot gives quite a bewitching impersonation of Nan. She acts in a dainty and charming manner, admirably suited to the part, and sings her songs in sweet and clear voice. Mr. Douglas Phillips's voice and presence produce an excellent impression in the part of Geoffrey Challoner, and in all his vocal efforts his success is undoubted. Mr. Arthur Staples, as Barry, spares no effort to make things go merrily, and is most entertaining from first to last. Mr. Leon Simkin makes the most of his opportunities as the Rajah of Bhong, and has many recalls for his topical song. Mr. Percy Everard scores well as Sir Joseph Verity, his acting receiving much approval. Mr. S. C. Cartwright imbues the rôle of Lord Anchester with dignity. Miss Florence Foster, as Sophie, renders her vocal contributions in a very pleasing manner, and is withal a dainty dancer. Miss Monica Astore is a graceful and charming Marjorie, and the Princess Metaneh Miss Josie Hammersley distinguishes herself by her clever acting and rising voice. Mr. Frank Davies is good as Douglas Verity, and Mr. F. Lankpard figures satisfactorily as Lord Grasmere. Miss Maud Dagnar is charming as Lady Anchester, and Miss Paula Fernau and Miss Maud Jennings are impressive as Mrs. St. Quinton and Lady Arnot. The chorus is numerous and good, and the music is satisfactorily rendered by the Marlborough orchestra, under the direction of Mr. William Devin. The scenes are from the brush of Julian Hicks. Mr. E. R. Beaumont is general-manager for Mr. Durrant Swann.

FULHAM THEATRE.

On Monday, Feb. 17, the Play, entitled "THE SIGN OF THE CROSS."

This play, so long identified with its gifted author, and with strong emotional and religious appeal, still has good drawing powers. A capable company is now giving it with much success at Fulham. Mr. Henry West ably fills the rôle of Marcus Superbus, and gives a fine study of the haughty Roman, torn by the conflicting passions of pride and an inexplicable love. He plays in the grand manner, and fine presence and good elocution are powerful aids. Mr. Bernard Elliott portrays with much ability the cruel and cowardly Emperor Nero. Mr. Charles Yorke, another actor gifted with a fine figure, shows to advantage by his representation of the crafty Tigellinus, and Mr. J. Wetherall supplies a good counterfoil in the rôle of the bluff soldier, Licinius. Mr. F. Wood makes much of his comic rôle of Glabrio, Mr. H. Jones does well as Philodemus. The Lepics are capably played by Messrs. P. H. Ross and M. Palmer, and Mr. T. Wetherall is good as Viturius. Miss Frances Midgley makes a lovely Poppœa. Miss Dorothy Lart carries off many of the honours by her fine work as Berenice. She looks the part well, and gives a fine picture of the proud woman scorned. Miss Doris Lorne, looking very charming, acts with nice honour as the lady Dacia, and Miss Barbara Lorne plays Ancaria with all the needful force and abandon. Of the Christians, Mr. W. Fleet and Mr. G. W. Hulme play the parts of the two brave men with dignity and pathos. Miss Florence Wood did very well in the part of the boy Stenos. Miss Madge Monte possesses all the necessary charm and reserve to do justice to the rôle of Mercia, and may be pronounced a success in the part. The play (under Mr. Greet's management) is excellently mounted and staged.

CRYSTAL PALACE THEATRE.

On Monday, Feb. 17, the Comic Opera, "THE CHOCOLATE SOLDIER."

Oscar Straus's tuneful music and the very Shaw-like humour of this clever work make it ever acceptable, and Mr. Philip Michael Faraday's company of clever comedians cannot complain of the warmth of their reception on their return visit, for encores were continuously demanded and every number was applauded. Miss Pearl Ladd possesses a trained and powerful voice, and her singing and acting were a pleasure to everyone. The song of the piece, "My hero," was splendidly given, and her many subsequent songs and duets were fully appreciated. Aurelia, Colonel Popoff's wife, was acted in a rich vein of comedy by Miss Curtis Cheal, whose fine contralto well suited the part. Miss Nellie Dale was full of life and movement as Mascha, and her pretty dresses, smart acting, and good singing added greatly to the effect of the scenes in which she took part. As Nicolas Merlie, Mr. Harry Arnold was excellent, and gave great point to his lines; his dancing was also good. Mr. Laurance Howard was a tremendous Massakroff, wonderfully made up as the fierce Bulgarian captain, and he was funny without being farcical. The Alexius Spiridoff of Mr. James Davis was a study of the conceited officer, and his pleasing tenor voice was heard to advantage. Mr. Leo Sheffield repeated his former successes as Colonel Popoff, and his quaint sayings and comical laugh and by-play helped the merriment along considerably. Miss Ruby Lesley as Katinka was an arch serving-maid, and spoke her lines well. The crowd of gaily dressed peasant girls were most attractive, and the uniforms worn by the officers of the Bulgarian army were smart and realistic. A word of praise is due to the band of twelve soldiers, who enter with Captain Massakroff in the first act, and whose appearance and evolutions were alike excellent. The special scenery and furniture carried by this company give a finish to the production. Mr. Chas. C. Finn efficiently conducted the augmented orchestra.

HOLLOWAY EMPIRE THEATRE.

On Monday, Feb. 17, the Drama, entitled "THE QUEEN MOTHER."

The above thrilling drama, presented by Mr. A. Campbell's company, is staged with elaboration and completeness in detail, and no pains have been spared to represent with realistic effects the chief scenes, notably the murder of the Chief Forester to the King, the duel scene between the Duke of Carola and Prince Ludwig, the assassination of the king, and the proclamation of the new boy king. Much responsibility rests on the shoulders of Mr. Richard Bosco, who gives an excellent representation of the renegade and bibulous King Ferdinand. Prince Ludwig is ably played by Mr. Frank Strickland, who displays the villainy and cowardice needful to the true delineation of the character. Mr. H. Mansfield renders effectively the part of Hubert, Duke of Carola, a performance that has breadth, power, and consistency, and he is soon a favourite with his audience. Miss Mary Fulton makes a striking and well-deserved success as Eugenie, the Queen Mother. She is wonderfully effective in the more passionate scenes, and altogether gives a fine study, artistic in every sense. Praise must be given to Mr. W. Lenton for his well-tempered [illegible] Count Jentzer is a peculiar [illegible] plays it [illegible] his p[illegible]

on the shoulders of Mr. Arthur Denton as Peter, the valet, and the laughter that greets his sallies testifies to his effectiveness as a fun-maker. A fine study emanates from Mr. Eric Morden as Francis, and we get an earnest delineation of Baron von Metsch, Prime Minister, from Mr. Douglas Tremayne; Mr. Wilton Reed acts well and with restraint as Marshall Lanitsch, and Mr. John Rimmer displays much earnestness as Capernick; Master Frank Beresford is an accomplished young actor, whose impersonation of Prince Osric is excellent in every particular; Miss Ruth Zillwood has a magnificent stage presence, and depicts the rôle of Eleanor, Duchess of Miramar, with dramatic effect; Miss Laurie Potter displays much charm as Ursula, Countess of Ebenstadt; and Miss Etta Arnold is an able exponent of Elsa. The admirable work of Miss Lina Nazeby as Widow Capernick is of much assistance, and the other members of the cast are well placed.

THE BROADWAY, NEW CROSS.

On Monday, Feb. 17, the Play, entitled "THE GAY LORD QUEX."

Pinero at his best and brightest is just now to be witnessed on the Broadway boards, and the interesting story of "The Gay Lord Quex," with its vivid and amazingly clever character sketches, and brilliant dialogue, is drawing large audiences. Mr. Charles Stretton's company prove themselves in every way thoroughly competent for the interpretation of the task they have undertaken. Miss Ethel Griffies makes a notable success as the impulsive, somewhat vulgar, yet good-hearted manicurist, Sophy Fulgarney, and the strong dramatic duet between her and the Marquess of Quex at the end of the third act is a veritable tour de force. Mr. L. Leveson Lane thoroughly realises the rôle of the reformed Lord Quex. He is throughout calm, unimpassioned, tactful, and the perfection of good breeding. Mr. Charles Harley contributes a good character sketch of the cross-grained old roué, Sir Chichester Frayne. Miss Jess Dorynne is very successful as the amorous and romantic Duchess of Strood, while Miss Violet Harley plays very naturally as the society butterfly, Mrs. Jack Eden. Mr. J. Poole-Kirkwood is good as the smooth-tongued and well-groomed, fashionable palmist, Valma. Miss Rita Ward as the aged Countess of Owbridge, and Mr. G. C. Roche as the fortune-hunting Captain Bastling are also well placed. Miss Ponsonby Hartshorn is a girlish Muriel Eden. The young ladies at the manicure establishment are excellently impersonated by Miss Eva Turnour, Miss Daisy Baldry, Miss Jennie Atherton, and Mlle. Juliette Pelletier. The scenery and effects are all that could be desired. Special mention should be made of the excellent efforts of the Broadway orchestra, which is under the able baton of Mr. Charles H. Peters. A new waltz, "Whispering Winds," composed by Mr. Peters, is a special and agreeable feature in the musical programme for this week. Mr. Arthur T. Baragh is the acting-manager for the visiting company.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Feb. 17, "EVERYWOMAN."

A large and expectant house, which included the Mayor of Southwark and many of the leading public men of South London, assembled at Kennington Theatre on Monday night for the first appearance this season on his own stage of Mr. Edward Compton, the joint proprietor with Mr. Milton Bode of this popular house, in the Drury Lane morality play "Everywoman." Mr. Edward Compton has obtained the sole touring rights of this remarkable production, and he is travelling an exceptionally strong company, who do full justice to the absorbing story of Everywoman's pursuit of happiness in a world of temptation. He has the advantage of utilising the actual scenery and effects used at Drury Lane, and has dressed and mounted the play with a prodigal hand. The result is a rare triumph, in which stage pageantry and good all-round acting are combined to delight and impress the audience. On Monday night the expectations of everyone were easily exceeded, and they gave vent to their appreciation at the close of the performance in such an outburst of enthusiasm that Mr. Compton was fain to express his thanks in a brief speech, which is reported in another column. Both Mr. Compton and his company thoroughly deserved the tribute which was paid them, for the performance was a marvel of artistry and stagecraft. "Everywoman" should certainly be a great success in the provinces. Everywoman, Miss May Congdon, was a fine study, and worthy of the warmest praise. She acted throughout with a sympathy which enabled her to portray the varying emotions of the character with unerring fidelity and at the finish won her the affections of the audience. Mr. Edward Compton contributed an excellent interpretation of Nobody, acting with dignity and strength, whilst the way in which he spoke the prologue and epilogue was refreshing to the ear. Mr. Fred Powell scored heavily in the part of Wealth, whilst Mr. Geoffrey Wilkinson made an ideal Flattery. The ingenious arrangement whereby he spoke through the mirror to Everywoman excited much interest among the onlookers. Miss Beatrice Yaldwyn was a Juno-like Beauty, her statuesque charms suiting the part to perfection. Miss Haidee Barry gave a natural and delightful conception of Youth, while Miss Helen Oliver was as sweetly refined as Modesty could well be. Miss Ruby Vernon was a dainty Conscience, and her vocalisation was brilliant; Miss Lily Vine, a Kennington pantomime favourite, furnished a remarkably clever stage portrait of Vice, a far from easy character to sustain; Miss Lena Delphine was responsible for a vividly-drawn figure of Greed; and Miss Daisy England was exceedingly good as Truth. The King Love of Mr. Gerald Henson was a manly effort, while Mr. W. P. Sheen did very well as Stuff, and Mr. H. S. Losmere was a good Bluff; Mr. Frank Robertson enacted the part of Lord Witless with genuine ability, and Mr. Richard Cornell was first-class as Age. Other parts were well filled by Misses M. Fontaine, M. Emden, C. Huntley, and Messrs. H. Barrett, M. Colomb (whose work as Passion was of a finished order), W. Ewart, A. Hammond, A. J. Cramer, and L. Arthur. The staging, under the direction of Mr. A. Hammond, could not be improved upon, especially in the great Piccadilly scene, and Mr. Knight Pearce was responsible for excellent orchestration.

THEATRE ROYAL, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, Feb. 17, the Drama, entitled "AS YOUR HAIR GROWS WHITER."

The author of "As Your Hair Grows Whiter," Mr. Herbert Fuller, has brought a strong company with him on this his return visit with this play. The representation is keenly appreciated.

Mr. Fuller extracts every ounce of fun from the rôle of Timothy Slough, and assisting him in the merriment created are Miss Ethel Bateman as Nurse Von Grip and Mr. Will Fennings as the Christmas wait, Nebuchadnezzar Mendelssohn Wagner Mozart—a most weird person. Mr. Edwin Morton makes a manly cleric of the honest country parson, Rev. John Alberry, and his fiancée, Alice Walters, afterwards his wife, is charmingly and cleverly enacted by Miss Agnes Collier. Ex[illegible] character studies are those of Farmer [illegible]his wife, effectively portrayed by Mr. [illegible] Miss Emily Lewes respectively, and [illegible]rapping Charlie are [illegible] Holwood. Miss Lily [illegible]

nent in Mr. William Vane, and his accomplice and catspaw Farrough is successfully undertaken by Mr. Stanley Hoban. The minor characters are carefully placed. The scenery and effects are on a lavish scale.

ROYAL ARTILLERY THEATRE, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, Feb. 17, the Play, entitled "MILESTONES."

Messrs. Vedrenne and Eadie are paying an initial visit this week to Woolwich with this most successful comedy and are doing enormous business. John Rhead is in the masterly hands of Mr. Frederick Groves. The varied moods of the successful man of business, now ahead then behind the times, are most carefully and clearly shown. Miss Muriel Pope as his sister Gertrude is just delightfully sweet and charming in every way at each "milestone." Miss Marie Wright is very impressive as the submissive and gentle wife of John Rhead. Mr. J. Patric Curwen is well suited for the difficult rôle of Samuel Sibley, whilst his wife Nancy, with her broad Yorkshire dialect and outspoken manner, is really well played by Miss Dorothy Wood. Mr. Ernest Graham too is responsible for plenty of fun as Ned Pym, afterwards Lord Monkhurst. Miss Grace Croft is clever in her enactment of the charming daughter of the Rheads, afterwards Lady Monkhurst. The headstrong, whole-hearted Arthur Preece has in Mr. John Howell a most effective interpreter, who "strikes home" every time. The lackadaisical young Lord Monkhurst is well placed with Mr. Gordon Ash, and the up-to-date Hon. Muriel Pym is charmingly played by Miss Barbara Neville. Minor rôles are well placed with Miss Hilda Francks, Messrs. John Killour, Paul Wynter, and Henry Armstrong. The scenery, effects and costumes are on the most elaborate scale.

ELEPHANT AND CASTLE THEATRE.

On Monday, Feb. 17, the Drama entitled "HER RUINED LIFE."

For this show Mr. Will Casey has got together a talented and capable company, including the popular Miss Annie Mitchell (Mrs. Will Casey). The audience are kept thoroughly interested, and at times highly amused, and the representation is an excellent one. Miss Florrie Kelsey as Margaret Chester, the devoted young mother, gives a finished performance, and her versatility is shown by her enactment as Mme. Traska, her performance throughout being worthy of the highest commendation. Mr. F. F. Lloyd as Maurice Chester gives a convincing study of the hunted husband. Mr. Dicky Bird as Bill Saunders is capital, his scenes with Karl and Maurice being excellent in every detail. Mr. E. Swinton as Allen Ford is also worthy of special praise. The comedy of the piece, for which Mr. Will Casey as Jeremiah Dibbs and Mrs. Will Casey as Lottie Puff are jointly responsible, is much enjoyed. Mr. Casey's part fits him like the proverbial glove, and he is ably assisted by his wife. Mention must also be made of Mr. H. Wright as Bertie Beecham, a breezy and refreshing performance. Conductor Stephenson is responsible for some very bright and entertaining music, which is ably played by the orchestra and adds greatly to the enjoyment of the evening. A couple of interesting pictures conclude.

LYRIC, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, Feb. 17, the Drama entitled "THE NIGHT SIDE OF LONDON."

Mr. C. Watson Mill's sensational drama, "The Night Side of London," is being presented here this week by the author's own company to appreciative audiences. The play deals in outspoken fashion with the "white slave" traffic and has many exciting moments. The part of the New Evangelist, Manuel Errington, is played in fine manly style by Mr. Terrance Byron, who was rewarded with many cheers alike for his courageous deeds and eloquent denunciation of this ghastly trade. Miss Mary Mallalieu made a charming Esther Dorincourt and was particularly good in sundry short love scenes with Manuel. Mr. Alfred Maurice gave an able impersonation of the scoundrelly Jew Herod Steinberg; Mr. Leslie Lingham was good as Ralph Desmond; and Mr. Francis Cavanah invested the part of Ostler Jim Merrick with considerable homely charm. Especially good were Mr. E. Hall Eldon and Mr. Henry Earlsmere as Starman and Cairns, two victims of Steinberg's malice, one blind and the other dumb. Mr. James Hussey obtained much laughter with his impersonation of the cockney chauffeur Curly Dabbs, as did Miss Marie E. Cotton with the broad good humour of Slithers, a country maiden. Miss Vera Grafton acted with much spirit and skill as Naomi Merrick, and Miss Madge Heyton was good as Magdala Fawcett, while Miss Josephine Olga made a pretty and pathetic figure of the child Dolly. Quite a hit was made by Miss Kitty Melville as a "slavey," Harriet Spinks. The lesser rôles were also well filled, and the piece was adequately mounted.

THEATRE ROYAL, STRATFORD.

On Monday, Feb. 17, for the first time in London, the Drama, in Four Acts, by Joseph N. Wharncliffe, entitled "THE WHITE SLAVE GIRL."

Tom Henderson	Mr. Frank V. Fenn
Gerald Danvers	Mr. James Jarrett
Will Plumbton	Mr. Syd. Claydon
David Lennard	Mr. J. L. Inglis
Luke Darvel	Mr. Jack Armitage
Don Pedro Castellano	Mr. Arthur Clifton
Dickson	Mr. Leonard Kendall
Jim	Mr. N. Hodge
Policeman	Mr. Leonard Condroy
Slader Gellimum	Mr. Ned Huzzee
Eva Lennard	Miss Dorothy Kirke
Moll Carrington	Miss Mary Brammer
Rose Drummond	Miss Grace Carew
Claire Fontenoy	Miss Hilda Beverley

The recent passing of a stringent Act for dealing with the evils of "white slavery" has obviously suggested the piece under notice, which has toured the provinces since December and made its initial appearance before a London audience on Monday night, when the Stratford Theatre Royal was packed from floor to ceiling. The story is written on popular lines, and it was followed with the keenest interest by those present.

Eva Lennard and her friend, Rose Drummond, two Lancashire work girls, through reading a plausible newspaper advertisement, are induced to go to London to better themselves, and there fall into the hands of the nefarious white slave trader, Claire Fontenoy, who maintains a sumptuous establishment, whence the unsuspecting girls are taken and sign agreements of service. The very day they arrive they find out the horrible predicament they are in, and their attempts at escape are frustrated by the woman and her hirelings. One of the latter, Moll Carrington, is not entirely heartless, and for the time being Eva is protected. Not so with Rose, who succumbs to her surroundings. Gerald Danvers, Fontenoy's flash partner in the business, now attempts to get the better of Eva, but is foiled by Moll taking the place of the girl, and Danvers never recognises the difference owing to the bedroom being in darkness. All this time the girls' friends from home are getting on their track—Tom Henderson, Eva's fiancé, her father, David Lennard, and a mutual friend in Will Plumbton. The last mentioned has already gained admission to the house through meeting Luke Darvel, Claire Fontenoy's hefty chucker-out and general factotum; but Will is promptly pitched into the street for making himself known to Eva, and after being locked up for a couple of days for alleged drunkenness, he reaches the other two and tells them of the girls' plight.

The new police regulations have seriously alarmed Claire Fontenoy, and she is always in a state of preparedness for flight, so that when the three men arrive at the house, determined to take the law into their own hands, they are too late, the girls having been just previously sent on to Buenos Ayres, where Fontenoy runs an establishment on similar lines. Here poor Rose has become a white slave indeed, and Claire Fontenoy is particular that the girl delivers up all her "earnings." Eva fares better, for she is destined for a wealthy Spaniard, who eventually arrives and is prepared to pay the price asked, but on the girl repulsing him she is brutally whipped by Fontenoy. They have, however, friends at hand, for Tom and Will have worked their passage out by the following boat, and, although Tom is not of much use, for there are rebellious times in Buenos Ayres, and he has got wounded, Moll has once again come to the rescue, and she and Will get the two girls out of the place. This proves doubly maddening to Claire Fontenoy, for, by questioning the girls, she had discovered that Eva was her own daughter, deserted in childhood, and the callous woman determines to exercise a mother's right in order to get the girl back. Fontenoy and Danvers quickly follow to England, and are at Eva's home before the girls, who find the pair awaiting them instead of David Lennard. They are not, however, destined to fall into their clutches again, for Tom and Will, together with Eva's father, are near at hand, and, in addition, the police arrive on the scene to arrest Claire Fontenoy, who, before being handcuffed, quarrels with Danvers and shoots him, the end promising far brighter prospects for the girls, who have suffered so bitterly.

Miss Hilda Beverley's company is responsible for the interpretation of the piece, which is staged and dressed exceedingly well. Miss Beverley, in the unthankful rôle of Claire Fontenoy, displays considerable histrionic power, and it is a tribute to her acting that in the slave trader's less callous moments she is the recipient of very loud applause, notably at the conclusion of the third act. Miss Dorothy Kirke is a girlish and graceful Eva Lennard, and she wins recognition for her touching singing of "Home, sweet home." Considerable tact is required to portray Rose Drummond, and the part receives very adequate treatment from Miss Grace Carew. Miss Mary Brammer makes a genial and pleasant Moll Carrington, the better side of whose nature is in admirable contrast to the time when she is in the clutches of Claire Fontenoy. Mr. James Jarrett does all that is possible with the degenerate Gerald Danvers, and Mr. Frank V. Fenn is a popular, if rather emotional, exponent of Tom Henderson. Mr. Syd. Clayton as the Lancashire lad, Will Plumbton, is always a very entertaining and alert personage; Mr. J. L. Inglis plays naturally as David Lennard; and Mr. Jack Armitage makes the utmost of his opportunities as the bully, Luke Darvel. Mr. Arthur Clifton (in addition to his managerial duties) is well in the picture as Don Pedro Castellano, and Mr. Leonard Kendall makes an effective policeman.

BOROUGH THEATRE, STRATFORD.

On Monday, Feb. 17, the Comedy, entitled "MILESTONES."

The distinct novelty attaching to "Milestones," the action of which is spread over half a century, depicted in Three Eras (if we may say so), with their accompanying changes in fashion and custom, is very strongly appealing to local playgoers this week. Messrs. Vedrenne and Eadie's company is an excellent one all round, and the atmosphere and individuality of the piece are well sustained. Of those who go "right through," Mr. Campbell Gullan is highly successful, in appearance, voice, and gesture, in portraying the three phases of the worldly John Rhead; Miss Mona Harrison very artistically delineates that lovable spinster, Gertrude Rhead, her acting in the later stages having the true pathetic ring; and Miss Gladys Hamilton's perfomance is in every way praiseworthy as John Rhead's amenable wife, Rose. Miss Edyth Goodall portrays Emily Rhead with tact and skill, being extremely good in the last act; Mr. Goodwin Nock is excellent as Samuel Sibley; the plainspoken Nancy Sibley is happily hit off by Miss Murielle Langley; the inventor, Arthur Preece, is a convincing and interesting personage in the hands of Mr. Dallas Cairns; and a very clever sketch of Ned Pym comes from Mr. Guy Newall. Others who do well include Miss Keith Lytton as Mrs. Rhead; Mr. Norman King as Thompson; Mr. Charles Lascelles as the snobbish young Lord Monkhurst; Miss Tonie Edgar-Bruce, a charming Muriel Pym; Mr. Evelyn Wickens as Richard Sibley; and Mr. Kenneth Webb as Webster.

DALSTON THEATRE.

THE J. W. TURNER ENGLISH OPERA COMPANY.

Music lovers experience the opportunity of gratifying their taste to the full this week at the Dalston Theatre, where members of the J. W. Turner English Opera Company are paying another of their popular visits. Due volume is imparted to the concerted portion of the performances by a full band and chorus under the direction of Mr. T. Lawton, and audiences follow each phase of each individual opera with a degree of attention and earnestness which is the best incentive to artistic effort on the part of those engaged in the representations. Verdi's "Il Trovatore" formed the opening attraction for Monday night, when Mr. F. J. Hargrave was cast for Manrico, Mr. Frank Clarke appearing as Count di Luni, Mr. Sidney Clifford playing Ferrendo, and Miss Sara Williams making a decidedly welcome reappearance as Leonora. The audience became positively enthusiastic over the favourite tunes, and demands for encores became positively peremptory. For Tuesday evening, Donizetti's "Daughter of the Regiment" and Mascagni's "Cavalleria Rusticana" constituted the programme. In "The Daughter of the Regiment" Mr. Sidney Clifford appeared as Sergeant Sulpice and sang effectively; Mr. Charles Leverton was decidedly good as Hortensio; and Miss Evelyn Ray gained much applause in the title-rôle. In "Cavalleria Rusticana" Miss Kitty Brownless was a sympathetic Santuzza. Her singing gained several encores. The dramatic duets between Miss Brownless and Mr. F. J. Hargrave, who appeared as Turiddu, aroused the full appreciative instincts of the audience. Mr. Hargrave was certainly at his best in this part. Mr. Frank Clarke was also a success as Alfio, rendering his songs with convincing vigour. Miss Jessie Dennis, in the, for her, almost restful rôle of Mother Lucie, sang with all her accustomed thoroughness. Miss Ella Vane was a dainty Lola. The many fine choruses were rendered with a fulness commendable to all concerned. The orchestration throughout was excellent. Other operas in the first week's representations include "The Bohemian Girl," "Faust," "Maritana," and "La Sonnambula."

BRIXTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Feb. 17, the drama, entitled "MONTE CRISTO."

A cordial welcome was bestowed on this admirable production, which had so successful a run at the New Princes Theatre, and is now presented by Mr. Andrew Emm's company. The scenery and appointments are first rate, and the enthralling romance of Alexandre Dumas' aroused much favour among Mr. Fredk. Melville's patrons on Monday evening. As Edmond Dantes Mr. Wilson Coleman was especially good, his versatility and rapid changes deserving unqualified praise. Mr. W. T. Riley was, as usual, sound, and gave an admirable account of himself as M. Danglars. Mr. Arnold Winters was excellently cast as Abbé Faria, and Mr. T. W. Dunscombe was to the fore as the Count de Morcerf. Mr. Hugh Montgomery deserves commendation for his realistic portrait of M. Villefort. Mr. Phil Harper's clever assumption of the rôle of Albert de Morcerf won warm applause. Caderousse's eccentricities were depicted with great skill by Mr. H. W. Monte, and his terrible spouse provided Miss M. Harcourt with a strong part, which she carefully played. Miss Etheldreda Taaffe was a beautiful and sympathetic Mercedes. Mr. George Fairhurst, Miss Grace Turner, Miss Marie Tennant are included in the large cast. "Monte Cristo" was mounted with care and taste, the original scenery from the New Princes Theatre being used.

EALING HIPPODROME.

On Monday, Feb. 17, the Comedy, "DOORMATS."

The latest Wyndham Theatre success, "Doormats," opened here on Monday last for a week, and the presentation of Hubert Henry Davies' comedy by Messrs. Bransgrove and Slaughter's company was all that could be desired. Noel Gale was portrayed by Mr. Pennington Gush with quiet and effective sincerity. The charming and flippant Leila Gale was played with sparkling vivacity and emotional force by Miss Deborah Volar. The part of Sir Rufus Gale (Noel's uncle) was well sustained by Mr. Percy Marshall, who brightened up the play considerably by his lively acting and caused great merriment. Miss Lucy Beaumont gave an admirable impersonation of Josephine (wife of Sir Rufus). As Captain Maurice Harding Mr. H. S. Dennison was convincing, the captain's love scene with Leila Noel in the second act being excellently played. The whole performance attained a high standard. The opening attraction of the bill was a short protean act provided by The Entertainers, who gave a short selection of music and mirth from the repertoire of the Quaints, and had a gratifying reception. Messrs. Winter, Green and Leslie, and Misses Ashton, Hodson, and James form the company.

THE WEST LONDON.

On Monday, Feb. 17, the Drama, entitled "SATURDAY NIGHT IN LONDON."

The sporting element in this play appeals most forcibly to the Marylebone lovers of boxing, and they are turning up in goodly numbers to enjoy the show. The scene of "Wonderland" in the third act met with rounds of applause, and the hard-hitting bouts between local celebrities, Jack Foy and Mike King, following a scientific exhibition by Lance-Corporal Crawley and Bill Finucane, were most closely watched and appreciated. In the drama proper Mr. Edward Boddy proffered a welcome delineation of Sir Jasper Wilton; Mr. Barrie Thornton suitably sustained Edward Mordaunt; Mr. Frank Sutherland typically portrayed Abram Shrabner; Mr. Frank Carlile was successful as Jacob Giddens; Mr. Jack Denton was free and easy as Jack Dorrincourt; Mr. Ernest Lawson cheekily emphasised Micky Nobbs; and Mr. David G. Noble enacted Roy Wilton with an earnestness that was thoroughly convincing. Miss Sophie Fane's embodiment of Sarah Shrabner was praiseworthy in the extreme; Miss Winnie Dryden was well suited as Maud Somerton; Miss Florence Barnes deserves every credit for her lifelike picture of Polly Hawkins; and Miss Eva Price, in the trying rôle of Mona Clayton, deeply affected many with the naturalness of her acting. Mr. W. J. Mackay produced the play for Mr. F. R. Griffiths in his usual attractive way, and the orchestra, under Mr. Ward Bailey's control, were never at fault.

SADLER'S WELLS THEATRE

On Monday, Feb. 17, the Drama, in four acts, entitled "THE CHANCE OF A LIFETIME."

A sporting drama has again been the attraction at this popular home of dramatic fare, and crowded houses have been the rule. It is performed in a realistic manner by the stock company with the addition of Mr. Frank Gerald, who presents a very quiet and gentlemanly portrayal of the villain, Captain Francis Clinch. Mr. Sidney T. Pease gives a powerful reading of the hero, Dick Douglas, and is to be highly commended on his performance. Considerable amusement is created by Mr. Archie Watts in his humorous interpretation of the Hon. Bob Lovett. With the assistance of Miss Violet Beatrice, as Lady Betty Lovett, he bears the brunt of the lighter portion of the play. Mr. Matt Wilkinson is most successful as Joe Robson; Mr. Harry McClelland acquits himself with marked ability as Mat Lawson; and Mr. R. A. Beaton is well placed as Ben Blower. Miss Dorothy Mullord is a pleasing Diana; Miss Dorothy Milne is to be warmly praised for her performance of Mrs. Edgar. The drama is magnificently mounted, the vast stage allowing the racecourse scene to be shown to great advantage.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE, WINDSOR.

THE GLOSSOP-HARRIS AND FRANK CELLIER SHAKESPEAREAN COMPANY.

This week Miss Florence Glossop-Harris and Mr. Frank Cellier's powerful Shakespearean Company is paying its third visit to this popular house, and receiving as enthusiastic a welcome as on previous occasions from a good and appreciative audiences. On Monday evening the Royal boxes were occupied by Prince and Princess Alexander of Teck and suite, who witnessed an excellent performance of "The Taming of the Shrew." The Royal visitors keenly enjoyed the performance, and frequently applauded the players. Mr. Frank Cellier filled the rôle of Petruchio, and Miss Gertrude Gilbert that of Katherina, both being seen to great advantage. They were cleverly supported by the other members of the company. On Tuesday "Hamlet" was presented, and proved one of the best performances of its kind seen here for a considerable time. The title-rôle had an admirable exponent in Mr. Frank Cellier, playing with ease and effectiveness. He was repeatedly applauded for a fine piece of acting. Mr. Frank Pringle acted earnestly and with considerable skill as Horatio. The Polonius of Mr. Arthur Leyland was also a clever and finished study. Excellent work was done by Mr. Doane Gardiner, both as the Ghost and afterwards as the Player King. Mr. Edward Dunstan's impersonation of King Claudius was a well-considered and finely played one. Mr. Frank Hughes filled the rôle of Francisco with distinction; justice was done to Barnardo by Mr. Walter Carr, whilst the two gravediggers had praiseworthy exponents in Messrs. Harksworth Dix and Christian Morrow, a good character sketch of Marcellus being supplied by Mr. Maurice Ingram. Mr. Arthur Layland's Laertes must also be accorded high praise. Miss Gertrude Gilbert gave a pathetic and finished portrayal of Ophelia; Miss Sybil Ruskin did every justice to the difficult part of Queen Gertrude, and others appearing with success were Mr. Frederick Keen (Rosencrantz), Mr. Alexander Young (Guildenstern), Mr. Marsh Dunn (the Priest), and Mr. William Podmore (Osric). The staging and dressing were all that could be desired, the stage management being well looked after by Mr. Frank Pringle. A capital augmented orchestra is under the lead of Mr. Harper Speer, and the general manager of the company is Mr. Max Jerome.

The Intermediate Examination in Elocution at the Guildhall School of Music Clapham centre has been successfully passed by Miss Catharine Carmichael, a pupil of Mr. Charles Cruikshanks.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP

Sir Herbert Tree will make his reappearance at His Majesty's Theatre, after an absence of eight months, on Easter Monday, in the new play, entitled "The White Man's Burden," the adaptation by Mr. James Bernard Fagan of "Prophet Percival," a drama of English life by the Hungarian dramatist Melchior Lengyel. The occasion will be memorable, inasmuch as Sir Herbert returns to the methods of some of his earlier successes, the part he is to play being that of a modern man of the world. Another interesting feature of the production is that that gifted young actress, Miss Phyllis Neilson-Terry, will appear for the first time as a married woman, moving in society. Her husband will be represented by Mr. Norman McKinnel, who is returning from America specially to take up the part.

"Drake," which has had such an extraordinarily successful run at His Majesty's, and is still playing to crowded and enthusiastic audiences, must be withdrawn before Easter, Sir Herbert some months ago having contracted with Mr. George Dance to take the entire production on tour in the principal cities of the United Kingdom.

Sir George Alexander's revelation, in his speech at the opening of the repertory season at the Grand Theatre, Croydon, on Thursday, of his ambition to be "rich enough to have a repertory theatre," was distinctly interesting; though under Sir George's broad-minded and eclectic rule, the St. James's has had many of the best qualities of a repertory house. It was also interesting to hear that Sir George is retiring from the London County Council, as he finds it impossible to manage a theatre and give sufficient time to his civic duties as well.

Mr. Arthur Collins will extend his season at the Queen's Theatre, where that amusing farcical comedy, "Get-Rich-Quick Wallingford," is drawing crowded houses. Mr. Hale Hamilton has evidently made "good" in this country in the title-part, for the play reached its fiftieth performance on Thursday last, and appears to have settled down to a long and successful run.

The box office at Drury Lane will open on Monday, March 3, for the first two weeks of Mr. Forbes-Robertson's farewell season there. The programme for the first week has already been announced. It starts with "Hamlet" on Saturday night, March 22, and is alternated by performances of "The Passing of the Third Floor Back," followed by "The Sacrament of Judas." On the second Monday, March 31, Mr. Forbes-Robertson will revive "The Light that Failed," adapted by George Fleming from Kipling's novel of the same name, with Mr. Forbes-Robertson himself and Miss Gertrude Elliott in the principal parts. This popular play will be repeated on Thursday and Saturday nights, April 3 and 5—the Tuesday night and Saturday afternoon of that week being devoted to the double bill of "The Passing of the Third Floor Back" and "The Sacrament of Judas," and the Wednesday and Friday nights, April 2 and 4, to a repetition of "Hamlet."

The annual Shakespeare Festival at Stratford-upon-Avon will this year extend from April 21 to May 14. For the twenty-fifth time, the performances will be under the direction of Mr. F. R. Benson. The birthday revival play this year will be Henry IV. (Part II.), in which Mrs. F. R. Benson will appear. This play has not been seen at Stratford-upon-Avon for many years.

The Dramatic Sub-committee of the Lyceum Club recently held a competition amongst its members for the best one-act play, costume and modern. The judges, Mr. Martin Harvey and Mr. Granville Barker, have selected "The Painted Nun," by Priscilla Craven and Sybil Ruskin, and "As the Law Stands," by Winifred Ardagh. The committee will produce these at the King's Hall, Covent Garden, on Wednesday, March 12, at 2.45; and the bill will also contain "The Dancer," by Mrs. Vigo, and "John Anderson's Chance," by Mrs. Stewart Erskine, which were adjudged next in merit.

These plays will be produced at a matinée at the King's Hall, Covent Garden, on Wednesday, March 12, and among the actors and actresses already engaged to appear in them are Miss Leah Bateman-Hunter, Miss Martha Vigo, Mr. George T. Greig, Miss Inez Bensusan, and Mr. Jackson Wilcox.

The death took place on Wednesday at his residence, 167, Ashmore-road, W., at the age of 94, of John Coleman Chute. Mr. Chute was brother to the late James Henry Chute, the famous Bristol manager, in whose stock company so many of our best actors and actresses graduated. He was an expert practical dramatist, being the author of the "Bullock" version of "East Lynne." He was also connected with the late John Coleman in many of his theatrical enterprises, including Mr. Coleman's season at Drury Lane in 1896. On the last night of that season the play "The Kiss of Delilah," by Mr. Chute and a collaborator, was produced. He did a good deal of acting, his favourite part being that of Archibald Carlyle in "East Lynne." He died very suddenly after an attack of dropsy. His faculties were bright and clear to the very last; his very distinct and detailed deposition was taken in the case of Hardacre versus Waldon, which was tried last year on the question of the rights of the above-mentioned version of Mrs. Henry Wood's novel.

Many friends of Mr. Ernest Owttrim will regret to hear he is lying seriously ill at 1, Jubilee-terrace, Burlington-road, Fulham, having contracted a severe chill, which developed into pleurisy. This, following on a long period of unemployment, makes his position extremely unfortunate.

It was ten years ago that the late G. B. Bigwood, whose funeral we report elsewhere, took the shop at the Marine Parade, Southend, where his genial manner made him popular with both residents and visitors. It was often startling to the purchaser in the shop to hear a tripper pop in and, with smiling face, quote some of the "tags" and "gags" with which the famous old comedian had amused the "Brit." patrons for over a quarter of a century.

"The biggest round of applause I ever had in my life," he used to say, "was in 1854, when playing in 'The Miser of Shoreditch,' at the Standard Theatre. I was pelted with bread, biscuits, sweet stuffs, and sausage rolls. The character I then had was that of a starving workman, and the biggest round of applause was the friendly gift of a half-quartern loaf, thrown at me whilst on the stage. I remember my replying to the donor that had I really wanted it, then he would not have thrown it."

Mr. John Armstrong, the genial musical-director of the Nottingham Theatre Royal, was the recipient of a handsome silver fruit dish, given by the principals of "Cinderella" pantomime at the close of its successful run, as a token of their warm appreciation.

Mr. Martin Harvey, who has been playing to fine houses this week at the Opera House, Leicester, has now practically completed his circuit of nearly all the big theatrical centres in the United Kingdom with the Reinhardt production of "Œdipus Rex." It is a noteworthy achievement to have toured with such uniform success a play which makes such exacting demands both on the artistic and the technical sides. The great classic has been everywhere received by Press and public as a revelation both in drama and production, and it cannot fail to have far-reaching effects as a new influence in public taste.

Next week at Bradford Mr. Martin Harvey is being entertained by the Playgoers' Society at their anniversary dinner, and he will afterwards deliver a public lecture at the St. George's Hall on "The Municipal Theatre," a topic which may shortly be expected to have a more than merely academic interest in this progressive Yorkshire city.

Mr. Wentworth Croke, in deference to the express wish of his many patrons, and in accord with the spirit of the times, has decided to turn his Lyric Opera House, Hammersmith, into a twice-nightly theatre, commencing on Easter Monday next.

Miss Cicely Hamilton has been much annoyed by the action of the Vice-Chancellor of Oxford University in prohibiting the performance at Oxford of her new play, "Phyl," which was to have been produced there this week. The plot of "Phyl" deals with a young governess who becomes the mistress of a wealthy guest of her employers. When he has lost all his money he offers to make amends by marrying the girl, and she consents. He is sorry for her. She is poor and has no prospects, and she marries him largely for economic reasons. Nevertheless, though "Phyl" is not to be allowed to corrupt the morals of the undergraduates, it will be produced by Messrs. Vedrenne and Eadie at the Royalty Theatre, and will be played in the provinces by Mr. B. Iden Payne's company.

The death has taken place, at 29, Maples-street, Nottingham, of Mr. Fred Fox, the well-known scenic artist, who has for many years been principal scenic artist to the Moss and Stoll circuit. The late Mr. Fox, who was 51 years of age, served his apprenticeship with his father, the late Charles Fox. He was afterwards associated with Mr. Wilson Barrett at the Grand Theatre, Leeds, and with Mr. J. B. Mulholland at the Grand Theatre, Nottingham. It was during his stay at this house that he painted several sets of the D'Oyly Carte productions. After leaving the Grand he joined Mr. Oswald Stoll at Cardiff. One of his latest productions was the whole of the scenery for the "Miracle."

The business will be carried on by his son, Mr. Frank Fox, who has been connected with his father in the paint-room for some years, and is now completing the second edition of the "Miracle" and other contracts. The body was conveyed to Edinburgh and interred at Newington Cemetery.

The Moody-Manners Grand Opera season at the New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead, is meeting with success, and the public is showing itself keenly alive to the feast of operatic good things provided On Monday the second and last week of the season opens with "Carmen," in which Mlle. Zolie de Lussan will once again give her realistic and artistic performance of the Gipsy. On Tuesday night, in deference to popular request, "The Lily of Killarney" will be revived, and on Wednesday "Tannhauser" will hold the stage. "The Daughter of the Regiment" is promised for Thursday afternoon, and "Maritana" for Thursday evening, with "Romeo and Juliet" on Friday night, and the ever-popular "Bohemian Girl" on Saturday.

Mr. Francis Serle, who has been stage-managing "Kismet" in Paris, was recently complimented by the Society of Stage-Managers there who entertained him at a lunch at which M. Carbonne (of the Opéra Comique), the doyen stage-manager, said many pleasant things of the way in which he and several of his colleagues were received when on business in London. Mr. Serle, in response, made a little speech in French, and assured them of reciprocal good feeling. He was also made honorary member of the society and their representative in England. When at the Managers' Club he will be pleased to be of service to any members of the society who may come over to London.

Mr. George Edwardes' "Dancing Mistress" company had an alarming experience on their way from Dundee to Manchester on Sunday. While crossing the Forth Bridge one of the springs of a scenery truck broke, and the manager (Mr. E. Kay Draco) happened to hear the sound of the snapping. The communication cord was pulled, and the train stopped. An examination showed that the broken spring of the truck was hanging down in a dangerous position, that, if not detected, might have had disastrous results for the train. The truck had to be taken off, and after some hours delay the company were able to proceed to Manchester, but most of the scenery had to be left behind. It arrived in Manchester on Monday morning, which meant heavy work to get ready for the evening performance.

The next public performance by the students of the Academy of Dramatic Art will, by kind permission of Mr. Cyril Maude, take place at the Playhouse on Thursday afternoon, March 13. Lady Bancroft, Mr. Forbes-Robertson, and Mr. Cyril Maude have consented to act as judges for awarding the Bancroft Gold Medal and the Academy Certificates. Scenes from "Romeo and Juliet," rehearsed by Miss Elsie Chester; the first act of "Milestones," rehearsed by Miss Helen Haye; part of Act 2 of "A Woman of No Importance," rehearsed by Mr. J. Fisher White; Act 1 of "Diana of Dobson's," rehearsed by Miss Gertrude Burnett; a piece from De Musset in French, rehearsed by Mlle. Alice Clerc; a Scene in Mime, rehearsed by Mrs. Edward O'Neill; and Dances, arranged by Mr. Louis H. d'Egville, will make up a programme which should be entertaining and give the judges opportunity for distinguishing talent. The Academy are enabled to perform this programme by the courtesy of Messrs. Vedrenne and Eadie and the authors of "Milestones," of Sir Herbert Tree, and of Miss Lena Ashwell. A special feature in the scenes from "Romeo and Juliet" will be a combat and duelling arranged by M. Felix Bertrand. Miss Kate Cutler, Mr. C. M. Lowne, and Mr. Ben Webster awarded the Academy Scholarships for the current term to Miss Carol Hewins and Mr. Francis Gardner.

Mr. Farmer Skein and Miss Estelle Stead have joined forces, and have purchased Mrs. Bandmann-Palmer's wardrobe, armour, etc., including a large new and unused stock. They will commence shortly a spring tour with a Shakespearean repertory. Their plays will be produced by Mrs. Bandmann-Palmer.

Mr. Dan Rolyat, who has been in Newcastle Infirmary for thirteen weeks in consequence of his dangerous accident while playing in "The Arcadians" at the Tyne Theatre, has, we are glad to hear, sufficiently recovered to be able to leave the institution.

Mr. W. W. Kelly has a strong melodramatic attraction for next week at Kelly's Theatre. It is Mr. Frederick Melville's colourful drama, "The Monk and the Woman." Mr. Melville is touring the complete original stage setting, and the company is headed by Mr. Ronald Adair.

The customary theatrical ball, arranged jointly by the Royal Court and Shakespeare Theatres of Liverpool, took place on Monday evening in the Exchange Station Hotel, and was a big success. All the principal artistes of the pantomimes were present, in addition to specially invited guests, the company numbering about 130. Regret was expressed that two earnest supporters of the popular gathering were absent—Mr. W. W. Kelly, who recently injured his foot, and Mrs. Kelly (Miss Edith Cole), who, under such circumstances, remained at home. This theatrical gathering, which is always looked forward to with much anticipation, came into existence in its present form about nine years ago. On Monday the M.C.s were Mr. Frederick W. Warden and Mr. F. Allandale, while the very satisfactory arrangements were in the keeping of Mr. Arthur Lawrence (manager of the Royal Court Theatre) and Mr. John Gaffney (manager of the Shakespeare).

Miss Ethel Warwick has acquired the Little Theatre for a term, and will produce there early in April a comedy by a new author, a gentleman well known in diplomatic circles. The play deals with English social and political life, and the action passes in the house of a peer of the realm, whose daughter will be the character played by Miss Warwick.

Mr. Jas. Welch's production of "Seven Days," at the Opera House, Harrogate, has been postponed to a matinée on Saturday.

Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson will appear next week at the Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool, in his own play, "The Blackguard of the Queen's Regiment." The piece, which is in nine scenes, most of them of a spectacular character, will be played twice nightly. Mr. Hill-Mitchelson will appear as Captain Keloff, Miss Tessa Myers as the Queen, and Mr. Sidney A. Monckton as Prince Karnac.

The King and Queen visited the Apollo Theatre on Tuesday night to witness Canon Hannay's Irish comedy, "General John Regan." After the second act the King sent for Mr. Hawtrey and complimented him, and also spoke of the splendid performance of Mr. Leonard Boyne. On hearing that Mr. Boyne had risen from a sick-bed in order to be present, the King requested Mr. Hawtrey to convey his sympathy to Mr. Boyne.

The cast of the revival of "The Schoolmistress" at the Vaudeville Theatre on Tuesday includes Mr. Dion Boucicault, Mr. Edmund Gwenn, Mr. Ronald Squire, Mr. C. Saint-Eve, Mr. Stafford Hilliard, Miss Winifred Emery, Miss Gwynne Herbert, Miss Muriel Martin Harvey, Miss Nell Carter, Miss Crissy Bell, Miss Hilda Trevelyan and Miss Lilian Mason.

We regret to report that Mr. George Owen, who is engaged to play Thomas Kennion in "The Younger Generation" and John McIntyre in "The Tallyman" with Messrs. Iden Payne and Theodore's company on tour, was in consequence of a severe cold accompanied by high temperature unable to sustain his rôles at the Gaiety Theatre, Hastings, on Monday night. They were, however, efficiently played by Mr. Kenneth Bruce, though everyone regretted Mr. Owen's unfortunate illness and wished him a speedy recovery.

It is anticipated that the successful production of "Twelfth Night" at the Savoy Theatre will last out the present season, after which Miss Lillah McCarthy and Mr. Granville Barker will for a short time manage only one London theatre, the Kingsway. In the early autumn Mr. Barker will recommence operations with a revival of "A Midsummer Night's Dream," which will in course of time by followed by "Macbeth." Miss McCarthy will be the Lady Macbeth, and the costumes and decorations of the play will be in the joint charge of Mr. Norman Wilkinson and Mr. Duncan Grant. In the case of "A Midsummer Night's Dream" Mr. Barker wishes it to be known that the play was specially selected by him as the one which his most adverse critics would consider least suited to his much-discussed method of staging.

Miss Esmé Beringer will give a matinée on Tuesday, March 11, at the Court Theatre, of three new one-act plays: "The Absent-Minded Husband," by Henry Seton; "The Cradle," by A. Rochester; and "The Morning Post," by Morley Roberts and Henry Seton.

Shakespeare appeals to all ages of man. Over 6,849 school children have visited the Savoy Theatre to witness the two Shakespearean plays which Mr. Granville Barker has produced there. Of this number 2,689 children witnessed "The Winter's Tale," while "Twelfth Night," which is still in the height of its success at the Savoy, has been visited by 4,160 scholars. It is interesting to note that 4,247 of these children came from the L.C.C. schools.

Miss Florence Glossop-Harris and Mr. Frank Cellier's Shakespearean company has been the first company visiting the new Theatre Royal, Windsor, to be honoured by the presence of Royalty. On Monday, Prince and Princess Alexander of Teck witnessed a performance of "The Taming of the Shrew." Large and enthusiastic audiences, which have included a number of Eton College boys, have filled the theatre during the week, and a most successful visit will terminate to-day with "A Midsummer Night's Dream" in the afternoon, and "The Merchant of Venice" in the evening.

Mr. H. G. Brandon, who has been the producer and stage-manager for all the productions of the Sadler's Wells Theatre Co., Ltd. (four stock companies), since the formation, and who is responsible for the complete and artistic manner each play is represented, has lately been presented with a pair of silver candlesticks, a tantalus, and a smoker's cabinet, as a token of the respect with which he is held by all the members of the companies concerned.

A tribute to the drawing power of "Everywoman" is furnished by a little incident from Brighton, where the play was first produced in the provinces. On the Saturday night an old man wanted to get into the gallery, but there was no room. He then tried the pit, with the same result. Thereupon he asked for a seat in the second circle, but that, too, was full up. At last, in despair, he went to the box office and asked for a seat in the first circle, but the only one vacant was in the gangway of the circle, which he accepted. At the conclusion of the play he went to the box office and said that it was worth the money if only to hear Mr. Compton speak the lines of the epilogue.

Mr. Acton Bond and Mr. Gerald Lawrence will be visiting Bristol and Ripon respectively for the British Empire Shakespeare Society on the 20th and 25th of this month to sustain the parts of King Lear and Hamlet in dramatic readings of those plays.

"OH! OH!! DELPHINE!!!"

Musical Comedy, in Three Acts, Book and Lyrics by C. M. S. McLellan, Music by Ivan Caryll founded on the French farce, "Villa Primrose," by George Berr and Marcel Guillemaud, Produced at the Shaftesbury Theatre, on Tuesday, Feb. 18.

Colonel Pomponnet .... Mr. Courtice Pounds
Fernande ..... Miss Cissie Debenham
Blum ..... Mr. Coningsby Brierley
A Hall Porter ..... Mr. Charles Chamier
Victor Jolibeau ..... Mr. Harry Welchman
Jacqueline ..... Miss Winifred Roma
Tutu ..... Miss Gwenyth Hughes
Antoinette ..... Miss Marjorie Compton
Amandine ..... Miss Mollie Hanbury
Lulu ..... Miss Connie Luttrell
Distinguette ..... Miss Marjorie Villis
Louis Gigoux ..... Mr. Reginald Owen
Alphonse Bouchotte .... Mr. Walter Passmore
Delphine ..... Miss Iris Hoey
Finette ..... Miss Winifred Delevanti
Bimboula ..... Miss Dorothy Jardon
Uncle Noel Jolibeau ..... Mr. Fred Lewis
Pluchard ..... Mr. Fred Evison
Simone ..... Miss Nan Stuart
Mme. Bax ..... Miss Violet Gould

We did not assist at the first night's reception of Mr. Robert Courtneidge's production, and did not therefore have to listen to the cries of "Censor," or to other sounds, less intelligible, by which the paying public in a London theatre gallery or pit sometimes expresses its verdict. On the Wednesday evening, when we were present, the demeanour of everyone was quite composed. There was no protest of any sort against the piquant nature of the matrimonial complexities; and, listening to the piece in cold blood, one could only guess at improprieties that probably went by the board—the Atlantic seaboard—during the two voyages of the piece across the streak from Paris to New York and from New York to London. The most striking thing about the production is the magnificent dressing. No expense has been spared. To the leading firms of London and Paris carte blanche has been given, and never has a chorus of pretty women been more richly and tastefully gowned, or a crowd of men more smartly uniformed. The scenery, too, brings into prominence once more the fine work of Walter Hann, R. C. McCleery, and Conrad Tritschler. Mr. McCleery has treated the verandah and the rose gardens of the Villa Primrose, with its seascape, with rare felicity of artistic expression; and in the marble-pillared ballroom, with its fine staircase, Mr. Conrad Tritschler has painted a most luxurious salon.

To come to the piece itself. It may be said at once that the score does not reveal a wealth of melody, though the waltz of the last act will be sure to win a great popularity. The fun of the situations will be sure to increase when the comedians have settled down to their parts. Divorce has before been treated on the Paris stage from a happy, jocose point of view, and the matrimonial complexities due to the double exchange of the wives and husbands who form the Jolibeau and Bouchotte ménages have plenty of piquancy, but there is no undue dwelling on thin ice or any over-emphasis of "spiciness." Delphine Jolibeau has tired of her artist husband. Victor's flirtations with his models were possibly the cause of her seeking divorce. At any rate, she obtains it, and marries Bouchotte, whose wife Simone becomes Mme. Jolibeau. Delphine and Jolibeau meet at the Hotel Beau Rivage, Brest, during the twenty-eight days' training. She brings her new husband, Bouchotte, along, and in order to keep Uncle Noel Jolibeau, from whom Victor has expectations, in ignorance of the divorce and remarriage, Bouchotte is to become unattached. By this device complications arise, not smoothed out by the arrival in Act II. of Simone, who has a vulgar quarrel with Delphine because that lady still finds her first husband—now belonging to Simone—most agreeable company. Bouchotte also becomes furiously jealous from the same cause, and his behaviour suggests nothing so much as a touch of harmless lunacy which has suddenly afflicted him. This supposition of dementia on the part of the crowd leads up to one of the few really comic scenes in the second act. We hear much throughout the three acts of Victor Jolibeau's picture, "Venus Rising from the Sea." He cannot discover a Venus with the rightly modelled shoulder, but at last he finds this much-sought-after beauty in a syren from Persia named Bimboula, the thirteenth wife in a harem. Reconciliation between the original couples has been in the air all through the piece, and when Uncle Noel sees Delphine in Victor's arms, he immediately makes a will in his nephew's favour, and Simone goes back to Bouchotte.

It is Bouchotte who provides most of the fun; and it is pleasant for the lovers of Savoy opera to see their old favourite, Mr. Walter Passmore, in a part in which he already scores. To him is very rightly assigned the comic gem of the piece, "Everything's at home except your wife," which Bouchotte interprets with a chorus of pretty housemaids. Miss Iris Hoey and Miss Nan Stuart play the wives, Delphine and Simone, with all the sauciness and vivacity demanded. Miss Hoey has very occasionally little bits of sentiment, of which she gives the best interpretation. This is to be noted especially in the waltz duet between Delphine and Victor Jolibeau. The latter part is played with a mercurial lightness that is particularly agreeable by Mr. Harry Welchman. Victor is quite a first-class flirt—not to say a dog—but Mr. Welchman passes lightly over the danger of his lines, and his voice is always pleasant to listen to. In the musical hit of the piece, "The Venus Waltz," in the last act, he is joined by Miss Dorothy Jardon, whose Bimboula will be talked about. Miss Jardon will considerably advance her reputation by this fine impersonation. Not only is she endowed with beauty and languorous Oriental grace, but she is able to suggest the sly humour that underlies the part. She sings, too, with culture. Mr. Courtice Pounds also does well as Pomponnet, the naughty old colonel, who opens the campaign of Cupid with kisses all round for the chorus, with the excuse in song, "'Tis only brotherly love." His duet with Bimboula, "Allaballa Goo-Goo," should become popular. Mr. Fred Lewis as Uncle Noel Jolibeau is especially humorous in the third act, wherein Uncle Noel determines every minute or so to make a fresh will, and in the ensemble, "Oh, P-p-p-poor Bouchotte!" a genuinely humorous interlude, Mr. Reginald Owen as Gigoux makes what we believe is his first appearance in musical comedy, and his jollity and brightness in the part of the young officer are immediate passports to public favour. Miss Dorothy Gould as Madame Bax shows us what an actress with real gifts for comedy can do with a comparatively speaking minor part. The six models of Victor Jolibeau completely justify their selection, and wear some sweet costumes with much grace. On Wednesday night the piece was received with much favour.

After a year's engagement with Mr. Arthur Hinton and Miss Lelia Zillwood's "King of the Gipsies" company, Mr. Arthur Rodney's services have been retained to manage their "A Clever Impostor" company. The production of Miss Emma Litchfield's fine play takes place on Monday, Feb. 24, at the Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith. It will be beautifully mounted and played by a specially selected company, and is well booked up throughout the year.

"ASK QUESBURY."

Farce, in Three Acts, by T. Herbert Lee, Produced at the Globe Theatre on Friday, Feb. 14.

John Quesbury ..... Mr. Weedon Grossmith
William Daintree ..... Mr. Edwin H. Wynne
Pragnell Thurston ..... Mr. Rudge Harding
Twiggs ..... Mr. Henry Ford
Frank Riverton ..... Mr. Geoffrey Denys
Louisa Daintree ..... Miss Daisy Thimm
Fanny Thurston ..... Miss Maud Cressall
Ida Mountjoy ..... Miss Nora Laming
Morris ..... Miss Shelley Calton

A play which ridicules an intellectual theory must be written on an intellectual plane; otherwise the advantage of its appeal to a cultured audience is thrown away. On the other hand, farces are seldom given long runs by the patronage of the studious section of the public; and therefore Mr. T. Herbert Lee, the author of "Ask Quesbury," was, perhaps, wise in his generation when he "went light" on the hero's philosophical speculations, and wrote an amusing, Palais Royal sort of piece, with errant wives and frisky husbands, doors, and complications connected with garters and bedrooms. The attacks of Mr. Bernard Shaw and others on the institution of marriage, and the vagaries of the disciples of the "advanced" school of morality offer a tempting subject for satiric attack; and the humour of a timid, nervous, "proper" little philosopher finding himself suddenly required to live up to his principles is very agreeable indeed. It is, however, to a certain extent smothered in the bustle, intrigue, and practical fun of the farce with which Mr. Weedon Grossmith opened his season at the Globe, by arrangement with Mr. Charles Frohman, on the 14th inst.

John Quesbury is a social philosopher, and the author of several books on the "immorality of the marriage law"; and most of the other characters in the piece have become infected with the doctrines which he professes. He has two friends, the Daintrees, husband and wife. William Daintree has become infatuated with a certain Mrs. Thurston, who is living at Brighton, her husband, a dull, practical, but strong and violent personage, coming down to see her at week-ends.

Quesbury, in his pretty and commodious flat in London, is startled by a visit from Mrs. Daintree, who is an old flame of his. She has run up to town from Brighton, determined to separate from her husband on account of his "carrying on" with Mrs. Thurston. Mrs. Daintree is a pretty, foolish, feather-headed personage, and is quite ready to spend the night at Quesbury's flat, and risk compromising her reputation thereby. She coaxes him into letting her have his own bedroom, he arranging to sleep in the drawing-room of the flat. Scarcely has Mrs. Daintree been disposed of when two more visitors disturb Quesbury's quiet. They are Mrs. Thurston and Mr. Daintree, who have left Brighton together, and have come to consult the great authority on "advanced" marriage as to the advisability of an elopement. After hearing their story—Mrs. Thurston's husband, she says, "bores" her dreadfully—Quesbury, captivated by her beauty, arranges to put her up for the night, Daintree sleeping in another of the rooms. Next Twiggs, Quesbury's man-servant, tells him of some trouble he has with a relative, Ida Mountjoy, a young typewriter, who has been kissed by her employer, and has slapped his face and "thrown up her job." She has nowhere to go for the present; and Quesbury, after seeing her and taking a fatherly fancy to her, affords her also the shelter of his flat.

Quesbury's house-full is likely to be an embarrassing one; and so, indeed, it proves. In the second act, Mr. Thurston comes up from Brighton, and calls on the philosopher, whom he knows to be a friend of the Daintrees, to try and discover the whereabouts of Daintree and Mrs. T., whom Thurston believes have eloped together. Quesbury tries to put him off the scent; but the fat is effectually put in the fire when Mrs. Daintree comes in with a garter which Mrs. Thurston has dropped in the room now occupied by Mrs. Daintree. Thurston recognises the article as one of his presents to his wife; and, when Daintree appears, is violently indignant, and seizes the supposed libertine by the throat. A scene of confused argument and expostulation follows, and the act ends with the discovery that Thurston is the employer who has kissed Miss Mountjoy.

The last act is devoted to Quesbury's attempts at clearing up matters, his involved explanations being very amusing. Finally, Quesbury, having at last patched up a peace between the members of his human menagerie, thinks of proposing to the little typewriter. But here again "advanced principles" cause trouble. Ida and her young husband, Frank Riverton, have been so thoroughly convinced of the immorality of marriage that they have made theirs a secret one; and she, realising that Quesbury is about to make her an offer, endeavours in vain to explain to him that she is already a wife. After an amusing scene of mutual misunderstanding, Quesbury realises that his suit is vain, and collapses. He revives, however, sufficiently to advise his friends, if they should at any time find themselves in matrimonial difficulties, to "Ask Quesbury."

Everyone who is familiar with Mr. Weedon Grossmith's inimitable style and personality can easily imagine how droll he is in the part of Quesbury. His hesitations and his "very human" susceptibility to female charms; his hesitating respect for propriety conflicting with his professed principles, and his affectation, in weaker moments, of "Don Juan" airs and graces, combine to carry the piece along to a successful conclusion, his acting in the scene in the last act when Quesbury proposes to the typewriter being of the most humorous sort. He is well supported by a capable company. Mr. Rudge Harding is comically prosaic and effectively vigorous as Pragnell Thurston, and combines strenuousness with absurdity with great success. Mr. Henry Ford's Twiggs is an unimpeachably polished and urbane man-servant; and Miss Maud Cressall makes a magnificently handsome Mrs. Thurston, and acts the part with great expression and archness. Miss Daisy Thimm is vivacious and alert as Mrs. Daintree, and Mr. Edwin H. Wynne does good work as William Daintree. Miss Shelley Calton is a duly defiant and dainty parlourmaid; and Miss Nora Laming makes a delightfully simple yet refined and sensitive Ida Mountjoy, Mr. Geoffrey Denys doing well as her young husband, Frank Riverton. The play, which was produced by Mr. Frederick Kerr, goes briskly and smoothly, evokes much laughter, and has a favourable reception. It is preceded by Mr. Stafford Hilliard's farce, "A Storm in a Tea Shop," in which Miss Evangeline Hilliard, Miss Gabrielle de Willden, Mr. Guy Lane, Mr. Geoffrey Denys, and Miss Mabel Harley all act with smartness and spirit.

"Jack Horner," at the Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool, is to take leave of his friends on Saturday evening next.

Miss Marie Tempest will be seen in a new play in a fortnight's time at the Prince of Wales's, from which "Esther Castways" will be withdrawn on March 6. The novelty is entitled "The Handful," and is from the pen of Mr. Gordon Edwards, who has selected a little fishing inn in Devonshire for three of the four acts into which the play is divided. Miss Tempest will be supported in principal parts by Graham Brown, Mr. C. V. France.

SPECIALS FROM THE PROVINCES.

"THE PASSWORD."

Piece in One Act, by Frank Ernest Potter, Played for the First Time at the Avenue, Sunderland, on Monday, Feb. 17.

Manilo, King of Boravia Mr. John B. Shinton
Marshal Rheinberg ....Mr. Fred H. Constable
Trooper Rudolph Duroc
Mr. Leonard S. Harrison
Fritz .....Mr. Bert Atherton
Vasilli .....Mr. Edward Lowrie
Jacquette .....Miss Ada M. Ryder
(Mrs. John B. Shinton)

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

This play, which was produced at the Avenue Theatre, Sunderland, is full of exciting incidents, coupled with a pleasing romance, while the story is plainly told and easy to follow. King Manilo of Boravia is besieging Petros, "the impregnable" capital of the neighbouring kingdom of Lycinia. The night before the story opens the King was shot at in the darkness, and a young trooper, Rudolph Duroc, whose pistol had been picked up in the camp, has been arrested. Suspecting that the culprit is his young brother, whose hot brain had become imbued with revolutionary ideas, Duroc refuses to speak a word, and is condemned to be shot at daybreak. The real culprit, however, is Marshal Rheinberg, the Queen of Lycinia having promised him her hand if he kills the King, and thus paving her way for a big coup. Duroc's sweetheart, Jacquette, who has become a vivandiere in order to be near her lover, now arrives in camp, hears of his disgrace, and begs the King to spare him. The King is immovable; she appeals for the sake of old times, when, as a young captain, with little prospect of being a King, he was quartered in her father's house.

The King relents so far as to give Duroc "a way out." He loads the pistol and leaves it on the table saying that if Duroc is the brave man she believes him, he will make the "amende honorable." The King, fearful of her safety if the camp learns of her relations with the traitor, insists on her leaving at once, having a horse made ready for her and giving her the special pass-word, "Au revoir." She is left with Duroc for a last interview. He sees the pistol and is about to shoot himself. She restrains him, saying that she overheard the King ordering a horse to be in readiness for a messenger. "What is to prevent you taking his place?" She gives him the pass-word and makes him put on her cloak. He presumes that she will follow and overtake him. She replies that she will take "another road." Soon after his departure Jacquette puts on his cloak, shoots herself, and falls stunned. The Marshal rushes in. The King entering applauds Duroc's bravery, but the Marshal boasts of having shot him dead while trying to escape. "With blank fire?" queries the King. The body being raised is seen to be Jacquette's.

The King's half-suspicions being now confirmed, the Marshal is searched and secret plans found upon him. The King breaks his sword and condemns him to be shot in Duroc's stead. With the plans the King's victory is now assured. He sends Jacquette on his swiftest horse in pursuit of Duroc, whom he promotes to the Marshal's place; and the curtain falls on the King gazing after her as the sound of her horse's hoofs dies swiftly away in the night.

High honour must be awarded Mr. John B. Shinton for his powerful and convincing work as King Manilo, while it would be difficult to speak too highly of the charm and womanly sweetness of Miss Ada M. Ryder (Mrs. Shinton) as the vivandiere Jacquette. Mr. Fred H. Constable takes the part of Marshal Rheinberg with capital effect. Rudolph Duroc is handled in able manner by Mr. Leonard G. Harrison, and good work also comes from Mr. Bert Atherton as Fritz and Mr Edward Lowrie as Vasilli.

PANTOMIME FAREWELLS.

A crowded audience at the Theatre Royal, Sheffield, gave an enthusiastic though regretful farewell to the popular favourites of Mr. John Hart's capital annual, "Cinderella," on Saturday last, when the patrons of the house, in spirit, crossed the line of demarcation between stage and auditorium, and joined hands with the artistes during the singing of "Auld lang syne." The curtain had to be raised again, and lusty cheers were given for Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont, the general-manager, Mr. Ivan Capell, the producer and stage-manager, the principals, the ballet ladies, the chorus, the children, the stage-hands, and Mr. John Hart, the provider of the grand feast of fun and fancy which has so worthily kept up the traditions of the old Royal for clean, honest fun, tuneful singing, refined ballets, and artistic *mise-en-scène*.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC.

On Monday, Feb. 17, the students held their Chamber Concert. No particular novelties were forthcoming, with the exception of a Fantasy (MS.) Violoncello, by Gilbert B. Bolton, and performed by Mr. Cyril Latham. It was not an unpleasing little work, but somewhat vague in idea. Two part songs by a student, Eirlys Lloyd-Williams were well received. They were sung by Miss Ethel Bilsland, Miss Elsie Gough, Mr. Gilbert Robinson, and Mr. Robert Pitt; the one entitled "Now is the month of maying" was very bright and pleasing. The Concerto in G Minor for violin, with accompaniment for organ and string orchestra (Vivaldi-Nachèz), with Miss Elsie Spencer as the soloist, proved very effective, as also the two movements from Mendelssohn's Octet (Op. 20) for strings, played by Mr. Edgar Hawke, Miss Lesbia Harrison, Miss Constance Newell, Mr. Wm. T. Moroney, Mr. J. K. Bauer, Mr. Frank Howard, Miss Doris Griffiths, and Mr. T. Barbirolli. Miss Catina Pandos was quite successful in her piano solo "Bolero" (Chopin). She has a good, firm touch, and gave great satisfaction. Another success was the singing of Miss Eleanor Evans in Coleridge-Taylor's "Spring had come," the Trio in D Minor (Arensky), of which the Vegia and finale only were performed, being rendered by Miss Elsie Cooper, Miss Elsie Nye, and Miss Doris Griffiths. Mr. Howard Clarke played the thirty-two variations in C minor for pianoforte (Beethoven) in a very creditable manner. It is a trying piece, and he kept the theme well prominent. Mr. Robert Pitt in his singing of Hungarian folk-songs by Francis Korbay pleased the audience. Other items were the violin and pianoforte playing by Miss Edith Abraham and Miss Harriet Cohen, a recitation by Miss Eileen Hunt, and the duo, "Scherzo" (Saint-Saëns) performed by Miss Frances Klein and Mr. Brian Nash. The conductor of the ensemble class was Mr. Spencer Dyke.

Mr. Charles Hannan's five-act melodrama, "The World's Way," has been secured from the author by Mr. Matthew Montgomery for a special stock week early in March at the Theatre Royal, Liverpool.

A young man named Alfred Smith was committed for trial on Tuesday on the charge of attempting to blow open a safe at the Theatre Royal, Liverpool. His lips and chin were covered with plaster, and it was alleged he had used gunpowder for blowing open the safe and had been injured by the explosion. He was stated to have said, "I had the light at the end of a stick and was near the door, but it went off too quickly. The other fellow got to the top of the [illegible]"

REPERTORY AT CROYDON.

An interesting theatrical experiment is to be tried at Croydon. A repertory season of six weeks has been arranged under the directorship of Messrs. Keble Howard and Dick Adams. A meeting was held in the Grand Theatre, Croydon, on Thursday afternoon, when Mr. Keble Howard explained the aims of the Croydon Repertory, and made some interesting announcements. Speeches in support of the undertaking were also delivered by Sir George Alexander (who was accompanied by Lady Alexander) and Mr. Granville Barker.

Ald. James Trumble, the Deputy Mayor, presided in the unavoidable absence of the Mayor, and in opening the proceedings gave an explanation of what was meant by the repertory theatre movement, which, he believed, would be welcomed at Croydon. Referring to the presence of Sir George Alexander, he said that while that gentleman did laborious work in the theatre he found recreation in what many would regard as the dull and dreary work of the London County Council, of which body he—Sir George—was a distinguished member.

Mr. Keble Howard said that the chairman had already done something towards explaining that awful word, repertory, and he would try to do a little more. Years ago there existed a fine institution called the stock company; that was before the touring system obtained the hold over the country it had at present. The members of a stock company appeared in all kinds of plays, and this was of great advantage to them, though, on the other hand, there were the disadvantages of having too much to do, and a good deal of the work was hurried and scrambled through. Then came the touring system, and a manager found it was a very expensive affair to take out a company of fifty or sixty. Besides, it was necessary to tour with a play that had been a London success. But there were plays produced in London which were extremely intersting, clever plays, but they were generally produced by dramatic societies on Sunday evenings and at special matinées. How, then, could people in the country see these plays? The answer had been found in the repertory theatres at Manchester, Glasgow, Liverpool, and Sheffield. The result had been an enormous advance in the English drama. They wanted to do the same thing in Croydon. A company would be engaged for a certain number of weeks, and produce each week a play of a kind that was not ordinarily taken round by a touring company. He divided playgoers into three classes. There was the indiscriminating playgoer, who went to see everything, and did not trouble what kind of play it was. They would be quite sure of him. Then there was the discriminating playgoer, and he thought that a repertory play would attract him; and, lastly, there was the casual playgoer. A friend of his who answered to this description said he did not want to see plays of real life, and that intellectual plays were dull. There were others who had the impression that repertory plays were improper. He wished to say quite plainly that they did not intend to produce any play that was improper—no one would be shocked in the least. And did anybody suppose they would be so stupid as to bore them with dull pieces? A theatre was a place in which to be amused, entertained, and taken out of oneself. It was intended to produce a play each week, and their season would be limited to six weeks. He thought that that would be quite long enough to find out if Croydon would support a repertory theatre.

He had secured a play, entitled "Chains," by Miss Elizabeth Baker—her first play, he believed—produced by a society on Sunday, and which Mr. Granville Barker found so interesting that he produced it at the Duke of York's Theatre. Other productions would include "The New Sin," by Mr. McDonald Hastings; "The Inconstant Lover," by the late Mr. St. John Hankin; "The Tyranny of Tears," by Mr. Haddon Chambers; a new play by Mr. Chas. McAvoy, a young writer who was coming to the front. He was also in communication with Mr. Bernard Shaw with reference to one of his delightful plays. He thought that this might be regarded as a fair repertory programme. An advantage in the repertory theatre was the opportunity it gave young actors and actresses, who were able in three weeks to obtain as much experience as they would get in an ordinary London theatre in two years. It would be of advantage to the British drama of the future that this training should be given; and it would be a source of pride to him if he were in any way instrumental in helping these young people to learn their business. They had chosen Croydon because its population, and that of adjacent places, amounted to about 250,000. The purchaser of a £5 book of tickets would have at his disposal six four-shilling seats each week, and he would also become an Associate of the Croydon Repertory. If one hundred people would take up these £5 books, the directors could see their way to get out without any serious loss. He understood that a report had got about that the repertory theatre was only for classy people. That was rubbish.

He was pleased to say that Sir George Alexander and Mr. Granville Barker had come there that afternoon to say a few words about the repertory theatre. They had come because they were aware of the enormous value of the repertory theatre to the art to which they had devoted their lives. Sir George Alexander had been manager of a London theatre for twenty-five years, had produced some notable plays, and recently he had come forward as the advocate of a municipal theatre. With regard to Mr. Granville Barker, he was at the head of the younger men in the theatre, and had at the present time two houses under his control where repertory plays were produced. In conclusion, Mr. Howard said that the Grand would be the first repertory theatre tried in the South of England (omitting London), and if the undertaking succeeded, he did not see why Croydon should not be the point at which various repertory companies would begin their tours.

Mr. Granville Barker said that Mr. Keble Howard had done him an undeserved honour in saying that he was at the head of the young men in the theatre—if they had a head at all. Nor did he know why he had been asked to take precedence of Sir George Alexander in the speech-making. He hoped it might be a surprise to them, as it was certainly a shock to himself to make the discovery that he was getting old. This became evident to him when he saw there was to be a repertory theatre established at Croydon, because he had been for ten years or more a member of a small band who had gone through the country crying the need of a repertory theatre in every town, and it was the usual experience when you went about crying for anything in England it never came to pass until you were dead and buried. He must, he thought, be nearing the end of his days, because he found repertory theatres all around. He considered it a very brave thing for Mr. Keble Howard and Mr. Dick Adams to start a repertory theatre. He believed the venture would succeed, but it required great courage and enthusiasm to make the experiment.

There were no doubt people who would say that Croydon was not an ideal place for a repertory theatre, as it was within half an hour—when there was no fog, at least—of the West of London, which was, by virtue of its thirty or forty theatres, a vast repertory itself; but he thought that this was a complete mistake. He was sorry to have so often to drag in Germany, but in many ways the Germans managed their theatres remarkably well. Charlottenburg, just outside Berlin, was more in the relation of Kensington to London than Croydon to London, and yet it could boast of two repertory theatres of its own. He believed that if they had a repertory theatre close to their doors in Croydon, they would crowd to it. He did not, of course, wish to prevent them going to the London theatres occasionally, but it was an expedition. The great thing was to get into the theatre-going habit, just as they were accustomed to go to their club—a place to go to once or twice a week; in fact, a regular place of resort. If they had a repertory theatre of their own they would feel a sense of ownership; the playgoing habit would become general, and that, he thought, would be the salvation of the theatre. There was one more thing he wished to say. Mr. Keble Howard had spoken about a book of tickets. He wanted to go further. If they were going to support the repertory theatre they must act at once; they must not wait until they heard what Miss Brown, Miss Smith, or Miss Jones had to say about the performance. They must show that they really believed in Mr. Howard's and Mr. Adams' judgment. It would be no use waiting until the end of the week before deciding to visit the theatre, and then pack the house on Saturday. A repertory theatre could not be run in that way. He would make them a sporting offer. Before leaving that afternoon he was going to obtain two seats for each first night during the repertory season there. If all present would do the same the seats would go up to a premium, and they would be able to get a profit on the sale if they wished to. If only 50 per cent. of the audience would do this, Messrs. Howard and Adams might go home feeling assured that their repertory season at Croydon would be a success.

Sir George Alexander, the next speaker, said he felt that he was present that afternoon as what might be called an awful example of a London actor-manager, who had not been a pioneer in the repertory theatre movement. But he would let them into a secret. It had always been his ambition to be rich enough to have a repertory theatre. Mr. Barker had spoken of Germany. He had had some slight experience of German theatres, and of the way they were managed by the municipal bodies, and he did not think that a repertory theatre would be entirely successful in Croydon or elsewhere until the municipality did something for that theatre, because the members of a municipal body were elected by the people, and if the latter thought their theatre had been neglected, the representatives would not be re-elected. Under such conditions people would take as much interest in their theatre as in drains or tramways. He had listened with great interest to the programme of plays to be produced at the Grand, and he thought that if he had had the choice he should have chosen nearly all those selected by Mr. Howard. He admired Mr. Granville Barker for having resisted the temptation to offer for representation on the usual terms plays in which he had a money interest. He himself had a few plays, and as a little offering he should be pleased to place them at the disposal of Messrs. Howard and Adams without asking for any monetary returns. He would not promise to act in a play there; he thought that would be wrong, because a repertory theatre should be a means of young actors gaining experience and making a reputation. He was afraid, however, that the directors would find that something would happen very similar to what always happened when a number of colts were turned on to a prairie—it was not long before one was the star and leader of the lot. And in a repertory theatre talent would assert itself, and before six weeks were over Croydon playgoers would have chosen their favourites among the actors and actresses engaged. That, however, would be quite admirable for Mr. Barker and himself in the capacity of London managers, as they were always endeavouring to discover clever new actors and actresses.

He was extremely glad to be associated with Mr. Granville Barker on that occasion, although that gentleman had given him a great shock by the statement that he had been asked to fight him in the South St. Pancras Division at the approaching L.C.C. election. He had, however, frustrated Mr. Granville Barker, because he was about to make his exit from the L.C.C., the reason being that he found it impossible to manage a theatre and act in it, and to give the requisite amount of time to the work of the L.C.C. One of his most earnest desires had been to get the Council to see the necessity for a municipal theatre. He thought that this might come about in due course, but it was very difficult in Greater London to create such a feeling as must exist in Croydon, as shown by the presence that afternoon of so many ladies and gentlemen. Knowing Mr. Keble Howard and his talent as a writer and organiser, he felt sure that they could go away feeling that this would be a successful venture, and that if they were to buy a book of tickets for £5 there was a probability that before the end of the week they would sell it for £10. If the ladies and gentlemen present would pledge themselves to attend, at any rate, the first nights, the enterprise would, he believed, be a success. He was sure that his brother managers would join with him in wishing the venture the greatest possible success.

Sir Frederick Edridge proposed a vote of thanks to Sir George Alexander and Mr. Granville Barker for coming there that afternoon. He thought that the appearance of the theatre was an augury—and a bright augury, too—of the success of the enterprise.

The Chairman seconded the motion, which was carried with enthusiasm.

Mr. Dick Adams proposed a vote of thanks to the deputy Mayor for presiding, and this having been seconded by Mr. Keble Howard, was carried, and the meeting then separated.

Among the many expressions of sympathy received by Mrs. Edmund Tearle on the death of her husband was the following telegram from three old Liverpool friends: "In lieu of wreath, pray accept this wire as token of our love and esteem. He was the noblest Roman of them all.—Dick Walker, Jim Tod, Harry Neale."

At the Spennymoor police-court last week a seven days' licence was granted to the lessees of the Cambridge Theatre, Spennymoor, without any objection. A similar licence was also allowed the Town Hall Picture Hall Company. It may be stated that all the places of amusement in the Spennymoor locality are on the seven days' licence principle

Mr. Herbert Samuel, Postmaster-General, in a speech at Loftus, Cleveland, on Monday, said that to the landowning class Mr. Lloyd George was anathema. They felt they could not live because of his land taxes, and could not die because of the death duties. The position, strangely enough, was foreseen by Shakespeare, who wrote in his play, "Richard III.," at the end of the first scene of the first act, referring no doubt by a remarkable exercise of foresight to the nation of to-day:

He cannot live, I hope, and must not die,
Till George be packed with post-horse up to heaven.

Two other lines from the same play:

Thus far into the bowels of the land
Have we marched on without impediment

evidently anticipate Mr. Lloyd George's inquisitors.

"THE KING'S MINSTREL."

A One-Act Play, by F. Randle Ayrton, Produced at the Coronet Theatre on Monday, Feb. 17.

The King's Chamberlain..Mr. William Calvert
The King's Page ..... Miss Nora Nicholson
A Lady-in-Waiting .. Miss Marion Foreman
A Lord ..... Mr. Darby Foster
The King ..... Mr. F. Randle Ayrton
The King's Physician .. Mr. Frank Matthews
A Priest ..... Mr. Frank Reynolds
A Courier ..... Mr. O. D. Roberts
The King's Minstrel .... Mr. Frank Cochrane
The King's Daughter .. Miss Eve Titheradge

Mr. F. Randle Ayrton, one of the most promising members of Mr. F. R. Benson's company, has now turned his prentice hand to play-writing, and in "The King's Minstrel" we have a romantic trifle with an old-world flavour, giving great promise that he may also excel in this line. The piece was well received, and went wonderfully smoothly for an initial performance. As a pretty poetical fantasy, a not over-original and unpretentious piece, it may be said to have achieved entire success. A King there was prostrated with grief for the loss of his only child, his beloved Margaret. In vain he strove to concentrate his mind on Statecraft and regal duties; his health was seriously impaired, and his mind continually wandered, roving with the couriers, who scoured the country in search of his daughter. A neighbouring Prince, to whom for State purposes his daughter has been affianced, coming in vain to claim his bride, had ridden off in high dudgeon, threatening to harass and annoy the King even more than of yore with raids and guerilla warfare. In vain the King's trusty Chamberlain endeavours to rouse up the Court, who, all affrighted and apathetic, hang on their monarch's mood of despair, and, struck dumb with terror, watch and wait for the news that does not come. At last the King, in desperation, determines to "throw physic to the dogs," to dispense with his chaplain and seek comfort in the melodies of his minstrel, who had been seldom to the Court of late. The troubadour sings a song of triumphant majesty, and the King is strangely moved. Presently his gaze is fixed on an object on the floor, which proves to be his daughter's necklet. This seems to betoken some strange happening to his mind, and the minstrel, emboldened by his success, speaks out in plain terms, demanding to know if the cold grey walls of the Court and the tyranny of Kingcraft can be all-sufficing for a maiden's heart. Continuing his pleading, he urges his Majesty to consider if "in the strong fortress of his Kingship a door has not remained locked too long," a door which only the key to his heart can open? This paves the way to the singing of a beautiful ballad, "The kingdom of love has opened its gates." Completely conquered by the minstrel's lay and overpowered by his arguments, the King offers him a boon—anything he craves, "even to the fairest jewel in his crown." The Minstrel then confesses that he has already plucked that priceless treasure—he has wedded the King's daughter. Thereupon the King gently bids the minstrel kneel whilst he begs pardon of his child. He thanks them for teaching him to learn the lesson of life, and ere the minstrel rises from his knees he is knighted, and their union is sanctioned and blessed.

The music and songs are composed by Percy E. Fletcher, who personally conducts the orchestra. The music is tuneful and charactertistic, and with the exception of the accompaniment, especially of "For the King," being too loud, both ballads are very pretty, tuneful, and charming. Mr. Frank Cochrane enacts the title-rôle with spirit and naturalness, and looks well the part. Mr. F. Randle Ayrton himself plays the part of the King, and, needless to say, his lines are beautifully spoken, and he draws a dignified and tragic picture of the broken monarch. Miss Eve Titheradge is pretty as the resolute yet loving Princess. Mr. William Calvert makes a good impression in the small part of the Chamberlain. Miss Marion Foreman brings the part of the lady-in-waiting into prominence, and Miss Nora Nicholson as a page, and Messrs. Darby Foster and O. D. Roberts as a lord and a courier respectively do good work.

AN M.P. DRAMATIST.

The following cutting was sent anonymously to Mr. Harold Smith, M.P. for Warrington:

"F. E.'s BROTHER."

(Mr. Harold Smith, M.P., is very often referred to as "F.E.'s brother." The other evening he took part in the discussion in the House, and his remarks drew forth protests from the Liberal Benches, which in their turn drew forth from an Irish member the remonstrance: "Order, order! This is F.E.'s brother.")

Ah! Harold, has it come to this,
You've surely missed your way;
Why did you choose dry politics
In preference to the play?
In histrionic circles you
Could be yourself and shine,
And then the glory and the praise
Is thine, and only thine;
For in a realm not brightened up
By your kin and kith,
People could clap, and cheer, and say,
"Lo! this is Harold Smith."
But in the realm of politics
They link you with another;
They quite forget you're HAROLD Smith,
You're only F.E.'s brother. A. E. D.

FUNERAL OF G. B. BIGWOOD.

In the cold, bleak weather of last Saturday the late G. B. Bigwood was laid to rest in the Sutton-road Cemetery, Southend. Despite the atmosphere, many old friends were present to show a last tribute of respect to the kindly and industrious old gentleman's memory. The mourners were: Mr. John Bigwood (only son) and Mrs. Bigwood; Miss Sara Bigwood, granddaughter; Mr. Major Bigwood, grandson, and Mrs. Bigwood; Miss Dorothy Jackson; Messrs. C. Knight, Geo. Palmer, E. A. Payne, and H. Walker, old friends. Mr. Jack Bigwood, another grandson, was prevented from being present owing to being seriously ill in the Westminster Hospital.

Previous to the interment the body was removed from the quaint little shop at the foot of the pier hill, where he had lived, and which all visitors to Southend know so well, to St. John's Church, where the funeral service was conducted by the Rev. A. W. H. Gibson Taylor. The wreaths included one from "Major and Kitty," of white flowers, and was surmounted by the deceased gentleman's velvet skull cap. Another consisted of a cushion of white stocks edged with blue violets, with a representation of a skull cap in blue violets in the centre, from Sara. Others were sent by Mr. and Mrs. John Bigwood, Ernest and Sara Cora, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Knight, and Mr. and Mrs. S. H. Palmer, Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Spencer, Mr. Alfred Bessell, Messrs. Enderlein and Arland, Messrs. William, Samuel, and Alfred Lane Crawford, and the Actors' Benevolent Fund.

In the church were: Mr. C. I. Coltson, representing the Actors' Benevolent Fund; Mr. Chas. Cruikshanks; Mr. A. E. Cass and Mr. Will Denham, members of the profession; Mr. Will Montague, for twenty-five years with Mr. Bigwood at the Britannia Theatre, Hoxton; and others.

SPORTING NOTES.

BY SANTOI.

It was touch and go with Lingfield and Kempton had a close shave, for the frost was exceptionally keen on one or two nights. We looked like having "no racing" with the black frost creeping over Europe. It's a bit less rigorous now, though training operations are at a standstill everywhere. Newmarket feels it, but even Wiltshire has had a taste of semi-Arctic weather. We must hope it will break up before the Grand Military. That meeting can, and would, be postponed, but postponement ruins it. I remember how flat it fell a few years back when snow made it necessary to carry over the Grand Military until after flat racing had opened.

Mr. D. McCalmont is already back with a view, of course, to riding again at the soldiers' carnival. He marked his return to the saddle in this country by what was a wonderfully lucky win in the Naval and Military Steeplechase at Lingfield on Wednesday. Greek Play had well beaten Ebonette, Mr. McCalmont's mount, when he came down, incidentally knocking out his rider. Viz, who just failed to get on terms with Ebonette, belongs to Mr. George Edwardes's son, and here was the irony of fate with a vengeance, for Ebonette only recently passed out of Mr. Edwardes's possession. Old Viz is useful enough, but age is creeping on him now.

Ebonette, who was just beaten for the Gold Cup last year, was evidently bought with the idea of winning the Grand Military Cup. Beyond Another Delight, who won last year, there does not seem to be another likely sort in the race. Mr. McCalmont has also Fleeting Peace nominated. Fleeting Peace is ear-marked for fame as a 'chaser, but I doubt if he has had enough experience yet to last three miles at Sandown. Possibly Mr. McCalmont will ride him and win in a shorter event.

The current issue of the Calendar gives the acceptances for the Great Lancashire Steeplechase. Little need be said, for nearly everything worth its salt has accepted the full liability. Marcellinus is there, of course, and this will very likely be the winner. He is entered, I notice, in the Trial Steeplechase, at Sandown, next week. Blowpipe, Highbridge, and one or two of the National horses are also in this race, but a conspicuous non-accepter is Axle Pin. Lord Derby's horse, they say, has fallen lame again, and if it is really serious—and his non-acceptance at Sandown points to it being so—I am afraid we shall have to drop Axle Pin for good. Barely six weeks remain now to the Grand National, and no horse can win this strenuous race, however well he may be handicapped, without a searching preparation. Even if they get him round now it would be a hurried sort of preparation, so we must bow to the inevitable. Many regrets, though, for Axle Pin looked an ideal horse to back at Aintree, after Jerry M.'s departure.

How to dispose of the six Grand National horses trained at Hednesford, and what to do with the training establishment itself, is a leading problem at the moment. The Hazel Slade stables are useless to Coulthwaite as a "warned off" person. Naturally, however, he does not want to leave his home. The owners, I should imagine, would like their horses to complete their National preparations over the wonderful Hednesford training ground. Yet it is certain that either Coulthwaite or the horses will have to go. It is all very unsatisfactory. Time is getting short.

The acceptances for the chief handicaps at the National Hunt Meeting at Cheltenham next month promise some highly interesting 'chasing. For the N.H. Handicap Steeplechase we shall probably see out the American 'chaser Highbridge, Ballyhackle, Jacobus, the horse that has caused all the trouble, Blowpipe, and other Aintree candidates. Of course, Highbridge may by that time have incurred a penalty at Sandown, in which case he is scarcely likely to run, for his weight is already 12st. 9lb. The 1,000 sovs. hurdle handicap does not seem to have attracted the best of the timber-toppers. The weights went up 7lb., and now the flat-catcher Dalmatian is at the head of affairs. From what I hear, Escott holds the key to the situation here with Dublin Bay, at the very foot of the handicap. Telbedde, of course, is strikingly well handicapped, and he has been winning recently, but the turned loose one at the bottom will take some beating.

All the good timber-toppers figure in the 1,000 sovs. Jubilee Hurdle Handicap, the entries for which appeared with the acceptances for the Lancashire Steeplechase. It is surprising to find Brandiminthe here, as the race this year is to be run before the Lincolnshire Handicap. Again he is well taken care of in the matter of weight, however, and possibly he may not accept. Dublin Bay also figures in this race, but he goes at Cheltenham first.

There was an upside-down incident at Lingfield on Friday. The number board operator in the paddock inverted the figure "9" in framing the numbers for the Selling Hurdle, and many people who read it as "6," Decider's number on the card, jumped in and took very short prices about Mr. Tyler's horse. It turned out afterwards that he was not a runner, but some of the bookmakers refused to return the stake, holding that it was an ante-post bet. That, of course, is ridiculous. There can be no question on the point. The horse did not come under the starter's orders, and people who backed it must have their stake back.

SELECTIONS.

At Kempton to-day, SPECTRAL could win the long distance Littleton Hurdle Handicap, but he is in a 1,000 sovs. race at Cheltenham and may not run. In his absence CERISAIE may be backed "each way." JACK OF PLEASURE GARDEN, whichever they run, will win the Portlane Handicap; PLATONIC should win the Handicap Steeplechase, COLONIST the Bushey Park Hurdle, and THE HIND the Maiden Steeplechase.

Plumpton on Monday is hardly worth discussing. VIOLET CHARLESWORTH ought to take the Keymer Steeplechase, MANQUE the Goring Hurdle, and JACK POT the Preston Handicap. At Windsor on Tuesday neither Ebonette or Fleeting Peace is likely to run in the Falstaff Steeplechase, and DURRAIN is afforded a really fine chance. In the Bracknell Handicap I shall advise a gamble on LINGGI, who has been running herself into form lately. HORNS has a chance in the Tuesday Selling Hurdle; the Burnham Steeplechase will fall to WHITAKER'S BEST, and LITTLE MISSUS ought to represent a betting chance in the Curfew Maiden Hurdle.

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"LADY NOGGS."

Comedy, in Three Acts, by Cicely Hamilton, Adapted from the story by Edgar Jepson, Produced at the Comedy Theatre on Saturday, Feb. 15.

Lord Orrington .....Mr. Lyston Lyle
Billy Borrodaile .....Mr. E. Evan Thomas
Rev. Alfred Gregg .....Mr. Ashton Pearse
Lord Hartlepool .....Mr. Lewis Fielder
Jimmy Cottenham .....Mr. Kenneth Kent
Colonel Stiffgate .....Mr. Arthur Grenville
Cotterill .....Mr. Reyner Barton
Morton .....Mr. Edgar B. Payne
Felicia Lady Grandison ..Miss Mary Glynne
Countess Karskovitch .....Mrs. Saba Raleigh
Miss Stetson .....Miss Mary Mackenzie
Duchess of Huddersfield Miss Hettie Cavendish
Lady Hartlepool .....Miss May Warley
Suzette .....Miss Margaret Chute

There is something irresistibly attractive in a friendship between a small child and a "big, strong man." It has made its appeal to the emotions of the public from the days of David Copperfield and Mr. Peggotty down to the Peter Wescott and Stephen Brant of Mr. Walpole's recently published "Fortitude." In Mr. Edgar Jepson's "Lady Noggs," which has been cleverly adapted for the stage by Miss Cicely Hamilton, half the charm lies in the fact that the fascinating little twelve-year-old Felicia Lady Grandison, who elects to be known to her intimates as "Noggs," can, when it pleases her, twist her guardian, Lord Orrington, the Prime Minister of England, round her dainty little fingers, Lord Orrington's excuse for succumbing to her little ladyship's "sweedling" being that she is "a little devil, but such a lovable little thing." Lady Noggs is adored by everybody, from Billy Borrodaile, the Prime Minister's secretary, and her sworn chum, to every needy villager on the estate. But, as every rule has its exception, so there is one person who regards Noggs with anything but favour, the wicked Countess Karskovitch, a beautiful Russian spy, who has wormed her way into the Prime Minister's heart and home in order that she may obtain the details of an important treaty. The Countess inspires universal distrust, except in the case of the infatuated Lord Orrington, but no one has the courage to tackle the lady until Noggs, having successfully manœuvred an engagement between her unwanted governess and the curate, is at liberty to turn her attention to the Countess. At first she plays the game with all her cards on the table, tells her opponent that a marriage with Lord Orrington "won't do, the county would never stand it," and warns her that she, Noggs, is her enemy. The Countess is furious, but defiant. Her plans are hastened by a message from those in authority urging her to obtain details of the treaty without further delay—that very night must the deed be done. Aided by her maid, a fellow conspirator, the Countess by trickery obtains a duplicate of the key of the library safe in which, as Noggs puts it, Lord Orrington "keeps his politics." The Countess slips into the room at night, but is disturbed by the Prime Minister, to whom she explains her presence, telling him that she has come to the library to bid him good-bye, as she is obliged to leave early the next morning. This news "floors" Lord Orrington, and precipitates matters. He places his elderly heart and his influential hand at the feet of his charmer, and she accepts both with very becoming grace. Overcome by happy emotion, she begs him to rejoin his guests and leave her to compose herself for a little. Left alone, the lady locks the door, unlocks the safe, abstracts the treaty, and is making a hasty copy, when she is suddenly confronted by Noggs—Noggs in a white "nighty" and a blue dressing-gown, who has been a witness of the proceedings throughout, for, having entered the library intent on the plunder of her money-box, she has hidden herself behind a curtain at the approach of the Countess. There is a regular stand-up fight between the big and the little woman, and the lightweight is getting the worst of it, when her screams attracting attention the door is forced open, and Lord Orrington rushes in, followed by his guests. The wicked Countess—foiled by a che-ild!—casts one last long look at the stricken Prime Minister, and creeps sinuously from the room, leaving Felicia Lady Grandison, surrounded by admiring relatives, in very complete possession of the field.

An excellent production of this simple, charming play is characterised by some first-rate acting, among which three performances stand out by reason of their exceeding merit and originality—that of Mr. Lyston Lyle as Prime Minister, of Mrs. Saba Raleigh as the Countess, and of Miss Mary Glynne as Noggs. Mr. Lyston Lyle, whose appearance is sufficient to convince one of his rank, is entirely consistent throughout. There is nothing lacking; his air of authority, his personal dignity are in conformity with his high position, and the bewildered helplessness of the big man when he comes to grips with the managing girl-child is the acme of fine, sound acting. Handsome Mrs. Raleigh looks magnificent in both her lovely frocks, and plays the spy beautifully, actually contriving to make a melodramatic and hackneyed part convincing, while the charm of her appearance and manner make it easy to understand the infatuation of the Prime Minister. Stage children are, as a rule, an unnatural race of beings—the training behind the effect is almost invariably apparent—and it is highly to the credit of little Miss Mary Glynne that her Lady Noggs is such a delightful, unaffected little person. The more we see her the better we love her. With her pretty fair hair, her charmingly simple frocks, her long black legs, and her soft little voice she works her way into the heart of her audience. She is an adorable child-actress.

Mr. E. Evan Thomas makes Billy Borrodaile, the secretary, a very manly, engaging young fellow, pleasant and natural in his style. Mr. Ashton Pearse contributes a clever, humorous and unexaggerated study of a curate. Mr. Arthur Grenville plays with such admirable vigour and sincerity as an irascible Colonel that one regrets that he disappears from the play after the first act. Miss Mary Mackenzie as the harassed governess whom Noggs "pushes in love" with the curate is first rate, and Miss Margaret Chute as the spy's accomplice puts some very good work into a small part. Mr. Rayner is good as one of the needy villagers befriended by Noggs, Miss Hettie Cavendish is a very jolly duchess, and Mr. Lewis Fielder and Miss May Warley as Lord and Lady Hartlepool are agreeable and well-bred. Mr. Kenneth Kent is acceptable as a nice young man, another pal of Noggs', and Mr. Edgar B. Payne is as pompous and dignified as a Prime Minister's butler ought to be

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Miss Julia Neilson continues her season at the Wimbledon Theatre this week in "Sweet Nell of Old Drury."

Mme. Adelina Patti celebrated her seventieth birthday on Wednesday. The daughter of Salvator Patti, of Catania, Sicily, and Caterina Chiesa, Mme. Patti was born in Madrid on Feb. 19, 1843. Both her parents were well-known opera singers, as was her elder sister, Carlotta, who died in 1889; and her brother Carlo was a violinist and conductor in New York and St. Louis, Missouri, where he died in 1873. At the age of seven Mme. Patti made her debut in public on the concert platform. In 1859 she made her first appearance in opera at New York, and when, two years later, she came to London, she was only allowed to appear at Covent Garden on condition that she sang for nothing. Since then the same theatre has often paid her £1,000 a night.

"NELL GWYNNE, THE KING'S FAVOURITE."

Play, in Four Acts, Produced at the Lyceum Theatre on Wednesday, Feb. 19.

Charles II. .....Mr. Lauderdale Maitland
Lord Villiers .....Mr. H. Wilmot Jackson
Lord Brookwell .....Mr. Fred. Ingram
Captain Summers .....Mr. George Milton
William .....Mr. F. Willing
"Flash Howard" .....Mr. Sam Livesey
Sir Basil Fairfax .....Mr. Frank Harvey
Sir Edward Westerby .....Mr. Hal. Charlton
Ned Hawkshead .....Mr. W. T. Smith
Joe Midders .....Mr. Richard Bode
Lady Beaumont .....Miss Maud Elliott
Lady Amberley .....Miss Janet Alexander
Lady Cowleigh .....Miss Olive Eltone
Lady Dorothy Westerby ..Miss Kitty Ricimer
Comtesse de Freville ....Miss Marie Housley
Cyclops .....Mr. Fred. Morgan
Mother Cyclops .....Miss Polly Marsh
Kate .....Miss Constance Bachner
Monseigneur .....Mr. C. F. Collings
Chevalier D'Arbois .....Mr. Austen Milroy
Edwards .....Mr. Fred. Elsworthy
Jackson .....Mr. Charles Wingate
Chapman .....Mr. Percy Baverstock
Chiffinch .....Mr. Raymond Wood
Miles .....Mr. J. T. Macmillan
Nell Gwynne .....Miss Tittell-Brune

Pretty, witty Nell Gwynne, the heroine of half a score of plays, made her reappearance on the stage at the Lyceum on Wednesday in a blend of Melvillian melodrama and stirring romance which took a crowded audience by storm. Pathos, humour, and tragedy alternate in the piece, and the quarrel scene between Nelly and Charles II. about the middle of the play is worthy of the best traditions of the stage. The interest up to that period was admirably sustained, but it languished considerably during the remainder of the piece. Nevertheless, the house cheered at every curtain fall, and the brothers Melville should be able to reckon on an enduring success.

The gratifying result was chiefly due to Miss Tittell-Brune, the Colonial actress, who has before won admiration in London, but who, on Wednesday, was taken to the hearts of the audience and idolised throughout the evening. Nell is first seen in her garret in Drury-lane, whither King Charles, having wagered 100 guineas that he will never laugh again, is brought to be cured of a fit of the doldrums by her vivacity and charm. She so far succeeds that his Majesty is soon found cheerily toasting a polony on the point of his sword. The cause of Charles's melancholy was the fact that his former favourite, the Comtesse de Freville, had deceived him. The Comtesse has come over from France with the intention of killing Charles, whose armies are gaining victories in Flanders, and is accompanied by the Chevalier D'Arbois, a French envoy. The latter designs to marry the wealthy Lady Dorothy, the King's ward, but her ladyship is already betrothed to Sir Basil Fairfax, one of the army captains, and it is the first duty of Nell Gwynne when she has become installed in the King's favour to get him to allow Dorothy to bestow her hand where her heart is already given.

The only resource left to the plotters is to abduct Lady Dorothy, a project which they accomplish, in spite of the gallant efforts to protect her made by Sir Basil. Later Nell is seen at Hampton Court Gardens, where she meets her devoted admirer, "Flash Howard," a highwayman, who vows to protect her through good and ill. His jealous feelings are worked up by the Comtesse, who alleges that the King has ill-treated Nelly, and prompts him to take deadly revenge. Meanwhile Lady Dorothy has been taken to a thieves' kitchen at the Falcon Inn, and Nell Gwynne sets to work to effect her rescue. After a love scene with Charles, in which she extracts from him the famous promise to build the army pensioners' home, she writes a letter to Sir Basil advising him of Dorothy's whereabouts. The letter gets into the hands of the King, who is induced to believe that it is a message to one of Nell's lovers, and he accuses the orange girl of faithlessness, with the result that she orders him from the house!

Subsequently Lady Dorothy is seen acting as serving maid at the thieves kitchen; but it is not long before Nell Gwynne, disguised as a ship's boy, gains admission to the kitchen, bringing both "Flash Howard" and Sir Basil also to the rescue. There is a good deal of disguising, three men all figuring in a scarlet cloak; but when Nell is recognised by the Comtesse and her myrmidons and bound to the wall ere the house is set alight, it is the King himself who casts off his cloak and sets her free. The last act is devoted to the capture of the conspirators by Nelly, who takes upon herself the responsibility of arresting them, while the highwayman is not only pardoned, but, knighted, the way for Sir Basil and Lady Dorothy's marriage is made clear, and Nell is left in the full enjoyment of the Royal regard.

Playing on popular lines, Miss Tittell-Brune made Nell Gwynne a merry, witty jade, romping blithely with the King, giving off her jests with excellent point, and indulging in a merry laugh that fell agreeably on the ear. Mr. Lauderdale Maitland also achieved great results as Charles II., both in the melancholy moments of the monarch and in his merrier moods. His elocution is good and his acting artistic. The scenes with Nell Gwynne were particularly well carried out, and the storm of applause that greeted the end of the quarrel scene was thoroughly deserved. The portrayal of "Flash Howard" by Mr. Sam Livesey, who is known chiefly by his performance of "The Village Blacksmith" on tour, was an able piece of acting to which his rich voice lent valuable effect. Mr. Frank Harvey was quite the gallant soldier and devoted lover as Sir Basil Fairfax, and Miss Kitty Ricimer was a sweet Lady Dorothy. The foppishness of Lord Brookwell was well assumed by Mr. Fred. Ingram, and Mr. H. Wilmot Jackson acquitted himself creditably as Lord Villiers. The youthful Sir Edward Westerby, Lady Dorothy's brother, who is strangled to death early in the play, was thoroughly realised by Mr. Hal. Charlton, and the study of the ruffianly Cyclops, the strangler, given by Mr. Fred. Morgan, did not err on the side of restraint. Mr. Austen Milroy made the villainy of the Chevalier D'Arbois constantly manifest, and as a French political agent Mr. C. F. Collings acted with his well-known suavity and wealth of expression. Miss Janet Alexander made the small part of a frivolous lady of the Court stand out with agreeable prominence, Miss Olive Eltone acting a similar rôle with effect. Miss Marie Housley made the vindictiveness and spite of the Comtesse apparent throughout, and as an old hag Miss Polly Marsh impressed by the power of her voice. A comic serving man was played by Mr. J. T. Macmillan with unctuous humour.

The scenery by Messrs. H. K. Browne, W. D. Hobbs, and the Lyceum Studio was elaborate, the apartment of Nell Gwynne being truly sumptuous. The dresses and wigs of the period by Willie Clarkson were in keeping with the elegance of the scenes, Nell's costume of bright white satin with terra-cotta embroidery being especially striking. Mr. H. Sullivan Brooke conducted the orchestra, and got the best effect out of the music he had specially composed.

Mr. Arthur Bourchier will put on next week in front of "Trust the People" a farce by Miss Clo Graves, entitled "The General's Glasses," with a cast including Mr. Thomas Sidney, Mr. Frank J. Arlton, Mr. P. Percival Clark, and Miss Nina Bentley.

"EVERYWOMAN" AT KENNINGTON THEATRE.

INTERVIEW WITH MR. EDWARD COMPTON.

Mr. Edward Compton is producing and acting in that great Drury Lane morality play, "Everywoman," at Kennington Theatre, this week, filling the rôle of Nobody with a sense of power and depth of sympathy which constitutes one of the finest artistic achievements of his career. But, busy as he is, both as actor and manager, Mr. Compton found time in one of the intervals, when the action of the play goes on without the corporal presence of Nobody to have a chat with "The Era" representative about the "Everywoman" tour.

"A fortnight ago," observed Mr. Compton, "we opened at Brighton, and last week we appeared at Hammersmith. Looking back on that fortnight's work I may say with truth that I like the part of Nobody very much. It appeals to me, because I feel Nobody can help the whole action so very considerably by his terse, yet sympathetic, comments on the play and the players. You can take the character either as a materialised spirit, speaking through a mask as Nobody does, or you can take him, if you are so minded, as the man in the street, the John Smith, who we all think does not matter. But he is the man who *does* matter, for he is the very man who sees clearly the fineness and the frailty of the eternal feminine's nature, and who will do his level best to help "Everywoman." He is sorry to see her going wrong, and is only too delighted, at the end, to see her repentant and returning to 'Modesty.' He is very relieved to feel she has not actually fallen, although she has been 'on the brink.' Of course, I find the last scene best."

"How do the public take that?" asked "The Era" man.

"Well," answered Mr. Compton, "the greatest tribute I can pay to this play is that last Saturday night, at Hammersmith, with a packed house and bad weather, the audience *would not go*. I was quite prepared for them to be moving, seeing what a dirty night it was, but they did not move even when the last word was spoken, so I had to say a few of my own words and dismiss them. I have also had many letters about the piece in

MR. EDWARD COMPTON AS "NOBODY."

this brief fortnight, mostly from women, saying how helpful it has been to them. One correspondent signed herself 'A Broken-hearted Woman,' and described how she had gone through the experience of 'Everywoman.' Others write to tell me what a great play it is, and what a great lesson it teaches. I did not expect all this, although I have tried very hard to give what has always been the aim of my life, as a producer, the best all-round performance that it was in my power to give. I have chosen everyone in the company individually for the particular part each fills. I wanted everyone not only to look their parts but to see they have something of the temperament of the different types in the play, and I think I have been successful. We had the greatest possible assistance from Mr. D'Aubin, the stage-manager at Drury Lane, and from the pianist, Mr. H. Colman, during our rehearsals, which only lasted a fortnight, and then by day only, and, of course, we travel the whole of the Drury Lane scenery and effects. We travel our own musical-director (Mr. Knight Pearce), electricians, and two or three carpenters, baggage men, &c. We have a huge pantechnicon for the properties, and about six trucks for the scenery. It is the biggest thing I have done."

"What is the extent of your tour?" asked "The Era" man.

"Our present tour," answered Mr. Compton, "is twelve weeks. We go from Kennington to Wimbledon, thence to Bristol, and back to the Borough Theatre, Stratford. We then leave London again for Swansea and Cardiff, and come back once more to the Marlborough, Holloway. Then we proceed to Birmingham and Dublin, finishing the present circuit at Nottingham. The autumn tour we open on or about Sept. 1, and take in all the big cities, such as Edinburgh, Glasgow, Liverpool, Manchester, &c., that we have not been able to cover on the present tour. That will last us right up to Christmas. I have not acted all the autumn, and I thought it would be an easy way of coming back to the stage to take up the part of Nobody and not be asking too much of either the public or myself.'

"How does 'Everywoman' draw?" asked the interviewer.

"At Brighton and Hammersmith," replied Mr. Compton, "business commenced quietly, but it rapidly boomed, and on each Saturday night you could not get a seat. The matinée at Brighton was the biggest they have had there for an ordinary play for a long time. At the matinée at the King's Theatre, Hammersmith, you could scarcely see a man's face in the house. I liked that, for, although the women come along at matinées, they bring the men along at night. I am a great believer in the play that appeals to women, as this play does, for then you are half way there. The man follows the woman, at least that is my experience."

The third production of the Incorporated Stage Society will include "The Comtesse Mizzi," a comedy in one act, by Arthur Schnitzler, translated by H. A. Hertz, and "The Green Cockatoo," a grotesque in one act, by Arthur Schnitzler, translated by Penelope Wheeler.

"THE BROTHERS KARAMAZOV."

Drama, in Five Acts, from "Dostoievski," by Jacques Copeau and Jean Croué, Translated by Christopher St. John, Produced at the Aldwych Theatre, on Feb. 17.

Alexei Feodorovitch Karamazov .....Mr. Allan Wade
Father Zossima .....Mr. Ralph Hutton
Dmitri Feodorovitch Karamazov .....Mr. Owen Roughwood
Smerdiakov .....Mr. Shiel Barry
Ivan Feodorovitch Karamazov .....Mr. Francis Roberts
Father Paissy .....Mr. Henry Willoughby
Father Joseph .....Mr. Charles Bishop
Feodor Pavlovitch Karamazov .....Mr. Robert Farquharson
Katherina Ivanovna .....Miss Hilda Antony
A Servant .....Miss Florence Harwood
Agrafena Alexandrovna ..Miss Miriam Lewes
Grigori .....Mr. James Skea
Moussialovitch .....Mr. C. Herbert Hewetson
Vroubleski .....Mr. H. B. Waring
Trifon Borisitch .....Mr. Tom Ronald
Andrey .....Mr. Val Cuthbert
Boris .....Mr. H. Cannon George
Arina .....Miss Norah Beresford
Stepanida .....Miss Susan Richmond
The Chief of Police .....Mr. Benedict Butler

At the Aldwych Theatre, on Monday afternoon, the Stage Society produced a drama in five acts by Jacques Copeau and Jean Croué, from the Russian of Dostoievski, translated by Christopher St. John, and entitled "The Brothers Karamazov." Interesting as the drama undoubtedly is psychologically, or rather pathologically, and as a study in heredity, it is so deeply impregnated with the inborn heavy gloom of the Slav that it only repels and horrifies—never attracts, though it does not fill one with the sick disgust inspired by Strindberg's plays. Briefly, it is a study of a decadent family, "something wild and savage, something alien to God, the soul of the Karamazov." . . . The father, Feodor, is a sensual, gluttonous creature, who lives that he may gratify his gross appetites. He has three sons. Dmitri, ungoverned, violent, ill-balanced; Alexei, who has sought protection from the flesh within the walls of a monastery; and Ivan, a young man of twenty-three whose self-control covers a seething passion of revolt. The father is murdered while he is awaiting a midnight visit from a lady of frailty, who is also the mistress of Dmitri. It is on Dmitri that suspicion falls; he has often threatened his father's life. He is tried, found guilty, and condemned to Siberia. The punishment sobers him to sanity, indeed, to nobility, for he accepts it as a means of expiating an ill-spent life: "except a grain of wheat fall into the ground and die, it cannot bear fruit." The fruit of Dmitri's sacrifice is the ennobling of Grushenka, the prostitute who elects voluntarily to share his dreadful exile. The real murderer is a horrible creature, Smerdiakov, an illegitimate son of old Karamazov, a most repulsive epileptic, who murders his father, partly in revenge for his own birth and partly that he may get the whip-hand of Ivan, whose mind he poisons, declaring that, though he (Smerdiakov) is the actual murderer, the thought emanated from Ivan, who is, therefore, morally the murderer of his father. There is an ugly scene between the two men, which ends in the suicide of the epileptic by hanging, and the subsequent relapse into madness of Ivan.

This gruesome little play, which was most excellently produced by Mr. Frederick Whelen, was finely played by some very distinguished performers. Miss Miriam Lewes, who made an enchanting figure in her Early Victorian dresses, drew the complex character of the demi-mondaine with great skill. Miss Lewes is an artiste of much power; every delicate little detail of her performance, every fine inflection of her beautiful voice, combined to produce a complete and perfect effect. As the illegitimate son, Mr. Shiel Barry gave a highly interesting and notable performance. It was a veritable work of art, though the character he portrayed was as distorted and repulsive as the outcome of any modern craze of decadent art. As the two sons, Dmitri and Ivan, Mr. Owen Roughwood and Mr. Francis Roberts both gave fine exhibitions of intense passion, convincing, and sincere. A welcome note of simplicity was well struck by Mr. Allan Wade as the atavistic son, Alexei, and this was repeated in a lesser degree by Mr. Ralph Hutton, Mr. Henry Willoughby, and Mr. Charles Bishop, as other inmates of the monastery. Miss Hilda Antony looked very charming and played with ability as the incomprehensible Ivanovna, and Mr. James Skea was effective as a rough, faithful manservant. Mr. C. Herbert Hewetson showed a former lover of Grushenka to be the cad he proved in the end, and Mr. H. B. Waring played very naturally as the cad's friend and associate. Several indistinguishable minor characters were sustained very satisfactorily by Miss Florence Harwood, Miss Norah Beresford, Miss Susan Richmond, and Messrs. Tom Ronald, Val Cuthbert, H. Cannon George, and Benedict Butler.

M. LOU TELLEGEN'S SUCCESS IN AMERICA.

During the occasion of Mme. Sarah Bernhardt's visit to London a few months ago, the opinion was voiced in these columns that the eminent actress's leading man, M. Lou Tellegen, was possessed of histrionic abilities which were quickly guiding him into the forefront of his profession.

The following extract from an American journal, published upon the occasion of the young actor's appearance in Chicago, under the heading of "A Bernhardt Benefaction," will therefore be read with interest:—

"In addition to banking our good dollars, Mme. Bernhardt is doing America a further service. It was pleasant to find, at the beginning of her tour in Chicago, she has retained as her principal actor M. Lou Tellegen. He will be remembered in St. Louis for his matchless performances, in association with the divine Sarah, at the Olympic in her most recent local 'farewell.'

"M. Tellegen, with a reputation as yet not won, so far as we know, in these barbarous but golden United States, is so rare an actor that, on merit, he should be able to command the rich rewards now cheerfully given to his Star, on repute. In 'Lucrece Borgia,' the third act of which was the Monday night Bernhardt bill at the Majestic Theatre in Chicago, M. Tellegen was the Duke. It so happens, for the matter of fifteen minutes that he is visible to the audience, his are the leading duties. He holds the centre of the stage. He talks, while Bernhardt listens. Throughout the whole performance his acting was such as American audiences are not often privileged to see. And, to their credit be it said, the spectators at Chicago's Majestic Theatre realised its worth before he was finished. A burst of enthusiastic applause followed him."

Princess Henry of Battenberg was present at the performance of "The Importance of Being Earnest" at the St. James's Theatre on Wednesday evening.

THE PLAY ACTORS.

Eight years ago half a dozen enthusiastic goers came to the conclusion that there mu in this country a great amount of talent " a begging"—clever plays, clever actresses clever actors that London had never hear

They therefore formed themselves into a band, called themselves "The Play Actors, metaphorically set out to conquer the Of course, they were laughed at. All pi are. They were told by sceptics and by " who know" that all the clever plays, a talented actors, and all the beautiful act throughout the length and breadth of Britain had been discovered "long ago." they only smiled—and increased their en And their energy was rewarded.

Miss Rose Matthews, Miss Winifred Mayo, Frederick Topham, and Mr. A. M. Heath were foremost among the enthusiasts—the ent siasts who were laughed at. Soon the li group began to multiply. It assumed title, "The Play Actors' Society." T gave it dignity. Then it started a su subscription for membership. That increased dignity. Finally, it drew up and had pri a set of rules. In these rules the three aim the society were clearly set forth:—

1. To discover clever comedies and d and produce them on the London stage.
2. To discover clever actresses and a and launch them on the London stage.
3. To produce in London translatio classic plays previously performed in Britain.

They came and saw. And now they hav quered. Indeed, they have not done conqu yet. They discovered, first of all, two one-act p "The Masked Girl," by Arthur Applin, "Breaking It Gently," by Affleck Scott. B these pieces were subsequently produced at Vaudeville Theatre, with much success.

That put new life into the enthusiasts. Wi the proceeds they presented Beaumont a Fletcher's classic drama, "The Maid's Tragedy That made another hit. Next they discover the lady now known to the world as "Georg Paston," and produced her play, entitled "'Tilda' New Hat," which she had abandoned all hop of ever getting staged. It made an instant su cess, and later enjoyed a long run.

After that there followed one or two failure even enthusiasts are liable to err in their "dia noses" at times. Their next discovery was th lady whose name is now a household word i dramatic circles—Miss Cicely Hamilton. Almo immediately afterwards they dragged Miss Eliz beth Baker out of obscurity, and the productio of her brilliant play, "Chains," they consid perhaps the greatest triumph they have ever had.

Mr. Harold Chapin, who wrote "The Marria of Columbine," and Mr. Harold Brighouse, wh wrote "Polygon," both produced by the Pla Actors, are only two of the many now famou dramatists who first came prominently before th London public through the medium of these ent prising enthusiasts who were laughed at. T among the classic dramas that have been p duced by them—in addition to Ibsen's "Bran played at the Court Theatre recently, with Saintsbury in the title-rôle—may be mentio Hauptmann's "Hannele," Maeterlinck's "Si Beatrice," and D'Annunzio's "La Gioconda." Brandon's "The Man With His Back to East," was produced by the Play Actors December last.

Until last year only Sunday performances w given, and only members were admitted. Th year the society has taken a long step forwar for now the performances given on the Sunda night are repeated on the Monday afternoon, a to these matinée performances the general publ is admitted.

On Sunday evening last, and at a matinée Monday, The Play Actors produced Björnstjern Bjornson's striking play, translated by R Farquharson Sharp, entitled

"THE GAUNTLET."

Mrs. Riis .....Miss Winifred Mayo
Dr. Nordan .....Mr. H. K. Ayliff
Riis .....Mr. A. M. Heathcote
Svava .....Miss Ernita Lascelles
Alfred .....Mr. James Berry
Margit .....Miss Elizabeth Rosslyn
Hoff .....Mr. Jackson Wilcox
Christensen .....Mr. Charles Vane
Mrs. Christensen .....Miss Phyllis Manners
Thomas .....Mr. E. Reynolds

The question which is discussed by Bjornson in this impressive, thoughtful, but too "talky" play—a version of which was given at the Royalty in 1894—is "Has a virtuous girl a right to demand similar virtue from the man she marries?" Svava, the heroine, an affectionate but independent young woman, is engaged to be married to Alfred, socially her superior. Hoff, a commercial traveller, calls to see her, and tells her in a rather mysterious way that Alfred had had an intrigue with his wife, now dead. Svava thereupon decides to break off the engagement, much to the distress of her mother and the annoyance of her father. The latter is a fussy, conceited reprobate, but the mother—a finely-drawn and very human character—overlooks his infidelities for the sake of the daughter. The parents—including Alfred's self-satisfied and mortified mother and father—do all they can to persuade the girl to reconsider her decision. There is also a kindly old Doctor—Svava's uncle—who thoroughly understands and sympathises with the girl's disgust. Alfred himself coming on the scene, is respectful, but unrepentant, and eventually the girl, after silently sitting through a discussion which is very distressing to her, and being asked for her answer, strikes Alfred in the face with her glove, and rushes out of the room. Alfred's father, who, by the way, is also leading a double life—all the men seem tarred with the same brush—greatly angered at what he considers most insulting conduct, thereupon declares his intention of waging war on Svava's parent. He evidently relents, for the conceited Riis returns from the knighthood of both very elated. And Svava's resolute conduct also appears to have had a chastening influence on Alfred, who proposes to go away for a time. He asks Svava to give him some sign that, should he return, she will reconsider her refusal. "Hold out a hand to me," he says; and after some hesitation Svava stretches out both hands, and Alfred departs.

Although some of the players were apparently not always sure of their lines, the representation was on the whole a decidedly praiseworthy one. Miss Ernita Lascelles played Svava with considerable force and conviction, and was especially good in the long silence of the second act. Miss Winifred Mayo cleverly realised the unselfishness of the devoted and long-suffering mother, who, ignoring her husband's infidelity for the sake of Svava, is so bitterly reproached by her high-minded daughter. That sound actor, Mr. James Berry, played the rather melancholy Alfred with strength, sincerity, and faultless elocution; Mr. A. M. Heathcote was a volatile and fussy Riis, though one could scarcely imagine him being the ladies' man he evidently was; Mr. H. K. Ayliff as the kindly old Doctor Nordan gave a well-considered and finished performance; Mr. Jackson Wilcox was seen in a clever and effective little study of the commercial traveller, Hoff; and Mr. Charles Vane and Miss Phyllis Manners exactly realised the parts of the elder Christensen and his wife. "The Gauntlet" was admirably produced by Mr. W. G. Fay.

ON THE ROAD, FEBRUARY 24.

S ORCHARD.—Grand, Accrington.
ONS, THE.—O.H., Coventry.
IANS, THE.—O.H., Burnley.
UR HAIR GROWS WHITER.—O.H., Torquay.
N MANŒUVRES.—Cardiff.
ADERS.—O.H., Cheltenham.
DONNA (LIMPUS).—Peterborough and Bury St. Edmunds.
DONNA.—O.H., Middlesbrough.
UR.—Kennington.
N, MR. F. R.—Coronet Theatre, W.
'S, F. R. Co. (including Mr. H. Herbert).—Theatre, Dublin.
'S, F. R., Co. (S.).—T.R., Pontypool.
NESS OF VIRTUE.—T.R., Margate.
MARK.—T.R., Newcastle.
STER'S MILLIONS.—Portsmouth.
Y PULLS THE STRINGS (N.).—W.G., New Brighton.
TY PULLS THE STRINGS (S.).—T.R., Brighton.
TERFLY ON THE WHEEL.—T.R., Sheffield.
L ROSA OPERA CO.—T.R., Glasgow.
TLE THIEF.—King's, Kilmarnock.
RLEY'S AUNT.—Marlborough, Holloway, N.
OCOLATE SOLDIER (W.).—Abertillery.
OCOLATE SOLDIER (N.).—Grand, Wolverhampton.
OCOLATE SOLDIER (No. 1).—Hippo., Darlington.
OCOLATE SOLDIER (E.).—Carlisle.
AKETTE MAKER'S ROMANCE.—Pavilion, Weymouth.
UDIAN.—T.R., Seaham Harbour.
LIER'S LASS (N.).—M.T., Manchester.
ER'S LASS, THE (S.).—Aquarium, Gt. Yarmouth.
IBO GIRL, THE.—Spanish City, Whitley Bay.
T OF LUXEMBOURG.—New T., Pontypridd.
NG MISTRESS, THE.—P.T., Manchester.
Y CARTE OPERA.—Lyceum, Sheffield.
ER, MR. MARCUS.—County T., Bangor.
ST WAY, THE.—O.H., Leicester.
LYNNE (PITT-HARDACRE).—O.H., Treherbert.
'S FIRST PLAY (PIGNOLD AND MACDONA).—T.R., Huddersfield.
L WEDDING.—King's, Greenock.
D THE WOMAN.—Grand T., Leeds.
OM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS.—Hippo., Huddersfield.
AMBLER, THE.—Hippo., Preston.
ARROD, MR. W. V.—King's, Sutton-in-Ashfield.
AY LORD QUEX.—New T., Windsor.
IRL IN THE PICTURE.—T.R., Ashton.
IRL IN THE TRAIN.—Royalty T., Barrow.
IRL OF MY HEART.—New Century, Motherwell.
LAD EYE, THE (MEYER).—Grand, Fulham, S.W.
LAD EYE, THE (MEYER).—Aldershot.
REAT WHITE CHIEF, THE.—Grand, Nelson.
ILL-MITCHELSON, E.—Rotunda, Liverpool.
INDLE WAKES.—Royalty, Bedford.
INDLE WAKES.—Grand, Doncaster.
OPE, THE (DANCE).—Hanley.
DIAN SCOUT, THE.—T.R., Jarrow.
LF'S.—Cambridge T., Leamington (3).
ISMET (DANCE) (S.).—York.
ISMET (DANCE) (N.).—Derby.
INDLE WAKES.—O.H., Northampton.
INDLE WAKES.—O.H., Southport.
IT CARSON.—G.T., Luton.

LA COMEDIJE ANGLAISE.—Whitchurch and Winsford.
LIFEGUARDSMAN, THE (S.).—T.R., Oldham.
LOMATH'S, STUART, CO.—Ystalyfera and Pontardawe.
MARSH, ALEXANDER, SHAKESPEAREAN. — H.M.O.H., Blackpool.
MIDNIGHT WEDDING.—Palace, Bordesley.
MILESTONES (BLUE).—T.R., Chatham.
MILESTONES (FIT-UP).—Market Harboro' and Newport Pagnell.
MILESTONES (RED).—Grand, Oldham.
MILESTONES (WHITE).—T.R., Blackburn.
MIRACLE, THE.—H.M.T., Aberdeen.
MISS HOOK OF HOLLAND.—O.H., Belfast.
MONTE CRISTO.—Grand, Croydon.
MOODY-MANNERS OPERA CO.—T.R., Birkenhead.
MORMON AND HIS WIVES.—Elephant and Castle.
MOTHER'S LOVE, A.—Gaiety, Houghton-le-Spring.
NICK CARTER.—St. George's, Falmouth.
OLD FOLKS AT HOME.—Royal Var., Rushden.
OLD HOME, THE.—Star, Swansea.
O'MARA OPERA CO.—Royal C.T., Warrington.
ONLY A MILL GIRL.—Grand, Halifax.
OUR FLAT.—Hippo., Croydon.
PINK LADY, THE.—P.O.W.T., Gt. Grimsby.
PRAIRIE OUTLAW (N.).—Queen's, Leeds.
PRAIRIE OUTLAW (S.).—New T., Crewe.
PRIDE OF THE PRAIRIE.—Osborne, Manchester.
PRINCESS CAPRICE.—H.M.T., Dundee.
PROUD MAISIE.—Lyceum, Edinburgh.
QUAKER GIRL (N.).—Crystal Palace.
QUAKER GIRL (E.).—Rawtenstall.
QUAKER GIRL (S.).—Colchester.
QUEEN FOR A WIFE, A.—Prince's T., Blackburn.
QUEEN MOTHER, THE.—Hippo., Ashton-under-Lyne.
QUEEN OF THE REDSKINS (S.).—Cradley Heath.
READY MONEY (FENTON).—Gaiety, Ayr.
RED RIDING HOOD (DE LACY AND TYMES).—Pav., Ashington.
ROLLICKING RORY.—T.R., Middlesbrough.
ROUND-UP, THE.—P.O.W.T., Salford.
ROYAL DIVORCE, A.—P.O.W.T., Nuneaton.
SCRAPE O' THE PEN.—King's, Edinburgh.
SIGN OF THE CROSS.—T.R., Norwich.
SILVER KING.—P.O.W.T., Birmingham.
SLAVE GIRL, THE.—Metropole, Glasgow.
SLEDGE-HAMMER, THE.—Hippo., Bilston.
SUNSHINE GIRL (DANCE).—Woolwich.
SUNSHINE GIRL (EDWARDES).—T.R., Nottingham.
SWEET NELL OF OLD DRURY.—King's Theatre, Hammersmith.
UNCLE TOM'S CABIN.—Pier, Eastbourne.
VAN PRAAGH-WHITT- REPT.—T.R., Lincoln.
WALTZ DREAM (N.).—Sunderland.
WALTZ DREAM (S.).—Wigan.
WAYS ANE MEANS.—T.R., Preston.
WHAT HAPPENED TO JONES.—Harrogate and Buxton.
WHAT WOMEN WILL DO FOR LOVE.—T.R., Barnsley.
WHIP, THE (DANCE) (S.).—Swansea.
WHIP, THE (DANCE) (N.).—Manchester.
WHITE SLAVE GIRL, THE.—Gaiety, Burnley.
WIFE FOR A DAY, A.—King's, Sutton-in-Ashfield.
WITNESS FOR THE DEFENCE.—T.R., Merthyr Tydfil.
WOMAN PAYS, THE.—T.R., South Shields.
YOUNG BUFFALO.—Alhambra, Openshaw.
10.30 DOWN EXPRESS.—Grand, Nottingham.

SUNDAY'S TRAIN CALLS.

By the courtesy of the various railway companies we are enabled to give the following particulars regarding the movements of theatrical and music hall touring companies travelling by rail to-morrow:

LONDON AND NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.

The following companies will travel by the L. & N.W. route on Sunday next:—Palladium Minstrels, London to Liverpool; "Queen Mother," London to Ashton; "Milestones," London to Oldham; "Cinderella," Wednesbury to Belfast; "Miss Hook of Holland," Derby to Belfast; "The Price," Wigan to Hanley; "Ben Hur," Southport to London; "Quaker Girl," Hanley to Crystal Palace; "His Indian Wife," Stoke to Brighton; "Cinderella," Liverpool to Salford; "Autumn Manœuvres," Manchester to Cardiff; "Man to Man," Manchester to Ystrad.; "Prisoner of London," Liverpool to Tonypandy; Mr. Alexander's Répertoire, Birkenhead to Blackpool; Mr. Fred Karno's "Wakes Week," Warrington to Burnley; "Count of Luxembourg," Chester to Stockport; "Queen of the Redskins," Worcester to Manchester; "What Women Do For Love," Bradley to Barnsley; "Little Stowaway," Birmingham to Southampton; "Girl in the Picture," Whitehaven to Ashton; Elder Hearne's, Barrow to Barnsley; Dayton Family, Millom to Birkenhead; "Girl in the Train," Lancaster to Leigh and Bedford; "Claudian," Leigh and Bedford to Seaham; "Man Tempted Me," Manchester to West Hartlepool; "Bella Donna," Huddersfield to Middlesbrough; "Merry Widow," Hyde to Morley; "Robinson Crusoe," Walsall to Birkenhead; "I Defy the World," Bilston to Earlestown; "A Lad's Love," Wolverhampton to Birkenhead; "Bunty Pulls the Strings," Dewsbury to Birkenhead; "House that Jack Built," Leeds to Wigan; "Cinderella," Morley to Salford; "One Life, One Love," Dewsbury to St. Helens; O'Mara Opera, Middlesbrough to Warrington; Esmond's, Stockton to West Kirby for Hoylake; "Christian," Leigh and Bedford to Bangor; "The Whip," Edinburgh to Manchester; "Night in Egypt," Carlisle to Southport; The Lorch Family, Oldham to Carlisle; Germania Girls, Manchester to Glasgow; 'Chocolate Soldier,' Barrow to Carlisle; "Forty Thieves," Preston to Barrow; "Price of Silence," Burnley to Workington; "Mormon and Maid," Farnworth to Workington; Pauline Rivers, Bolton to Brynmawr; Darnall's, Preston to Dunfermline; "Ways and Means," London to Preston; "Change," London to Northampton; "Speckled Band," Bedford to Smethwick; "Her Madcap Majesty," Northampton to Dudley; "The Amazons," Peterborough to Coventry; "Wild Girl of the Forest," Rugby to Birmingham; "Quaker Girl," Nuneaton to Rawtenstall; "Through Death Valley," Liverpool to Dublin; "Marked Money," Manchester to London; Mr. Fred. Karno's "Hydro," Darwen to London; "Trip to Chinatown," Bangor to Bootle; "Leah Kleschna," West Kirby for Hoylake to Manchester; "Prairie Outlaw," Manchester to Leeds; "Alias Jimmy Valentine," Birmingham to London; "Quaker Girl," Coventry to Colchester; "With Edged Tools," Blackpool to Wednesbury; "At Mercy of Mormons," Earlestown to Rugby; "Monk and Woman," Crewe to Liverpool; Haley's Garden of Girls, Leamington to Manchester; "Cinderella," Goole to Cannock; "Only a Mill Girl," Glasgow to Halifax; "Sledge-Hammer," Hednesford to Ettingshall-road; "Girl in the Train," Carlisle to Barrow; "The Barrier," Cork to Bolton.

NORTH-EASTERN RAILWAY.

The following companies will travel over the above railway to-morrow (Sunday): Darracq Co., Newcastle to King's Cross; "The Pink Lady," Sunderland to Grimsby Docks; Delamere Co., Fencehouses to Hull; "Honeymoon," Crook to Manchester; "Collier's Lass," North Shields to Manchester; "Lifeguardsman," Newcastle to Oldham; "Thief in the Night," Sunderland to Rotherham; "The Gambler," Jarrow to Preston; "Colombo Girl," Whitley Bay to Brighouse; Hanlon Bros., Sunderland to Liverpool; Cecelia Dare's Co., Hartlepool to Halifax; Jackson Family, South Shields to Blackburn; "House That Jack Built," Glasgow to London; "Only a Millgirl," Glasgow to Halifax; Vedrenne and Eadie Co., Glasgow to Leeds; "Mormon's Wife," over to Shotton Bridge; "Scrape o' the Pen," Newcastle to Edinburgh; "Pet of the Ranch," West Hartlepool to Belfast; "Red Riding Hood," Fencehouses to Ashington; Harold Sextette, Ashington to Pelton; "Forty Thieves," Ashington to Stockton; "Chocolate Soldier," West Hartlepool to Darlington; Lieut. Insen's Band Sunderland to Stockton; "Dick Whittington," Usworth to Murton; "Dick Whittington," North Shields to Wallsend; "Aladdin," Seaham to Bishop Auckland; "Sleeping Beauty," Bishop Auckland to Gateshead; "Shaughraun," Shield Row to South Shields; Cleveland Troupe, Shield Row to Ferryhill; "A Mother's Love," Spennymoor to Fencehouses; Will and Rose Co., Alnwick to Newcastle; "Bella Donna," York to Peterborough; Miss Lole Esmond's Co., Thornaby to Hoylake; "Millgirl to Millionairess," Thornaby to Huddersfield; O'Mara Opera Co., Middlesbrough to Warrington; "Silver King," Middlesbrough to Birmingham; "Garden of Mystery," Middlesbrough to Yarmouth; "Kismet," Rochdale to York; "Peggy," Barnsley to Darlington; "No Mother to Guide Her," Macclesfield to Sunderland; "Wild Australia," Sheffield to Newcastle; "Little Jack Horner," Darlington to St. Helens; Arthur Roberts' Co., Darlington to London; "Claudian," Leigh and Bedford to Seaham; "Man Tempted Me," Manchester to West Hartlepool; "Bella Donna," Huddersfield to Middlesbrough; Miss Dallas Yorke's Co., Guisbro' to Marsden; "Wearin' o' the Green," Wigan to Middlesbrough; "Cinderella," Accrington to Newcastle; "Peter Pan," Hull to Bury; "When London Sleeps," Hull to Sheffield; Bros. Luck Co., Hull to Leeds; Perci Honri's Co., London to Newcastle; "Pride of the Prairie," Castleford to Manchester; Jane Welch's Co., Harrogate to Hull.

MIDLAND RAILWAY.

Theatrical companies en route Sunday, Feb. 23, 1913:—Mr. Martin Harvey and company, Leicester to Bradford; Mr. George Edwardes's "The Sunshine Girl," Birmingham to Nottingham; "Brewster's Millions," Stockport to Portsmouth; "Arms and the Girl," Leeds to Sheffield; Miss Violet Vanbrugh's company, Manchester to London; "Royal Divorce," Rotherham to Nuneaton; "San Toy," Nottingham to London; "10.30 Down Express," Coalville to Nottingham; "Walls of Jericho," Mansfield to Macclesfield; "Hindle Wakes," Luton to Bedford; "Silver Creek," Langley Mill to Runcorn; "A Butterfly on the Wheel," London to Sheffield; "The Easiest Way," Northampton to Leicester; "The Bondman," Smethwick to Leicester; "The Cowboy King," Swindon to Manchester; Royde's Répertoire Co., Keighley to Perth; "Mousmé," Kilmarnock to London; "The Blind Girl's Love," Sutton-in-Ashfield to Rushden; "Pawnbroker," Southend to Liverpool; "The Old Folks at Home," Nottingham to Rushden; "Wild Australia," Sheffield to Newcastle; Chung Ling Soo and Co., Bath to Worcester; "Orange Peel," London to Manchester; "Manxman," Buxton to Scarborough; Miss Monica Maurice's Co., Clay Cross to Uttoxeter; "Hindle Wakes," Cheltenham to Northampton; "Midnight Wedding," Leeds to Birmingham; "Improper Peter," Buxton to Burton; Poole's Co., Newport to Warrington; "Babes in the Wood," Stafford to Coalville; "When London Sleeps," Hull to Sheffield; &c.

LONDON AND SOUTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.

The undermentioned companies will be travelling over the above railway to-morrow (Sunday):—Mr. Forbes Robertson's company, Portsmouth to Plymouth; Mr. William Greet's "The Sign of the Cross," Putney to Norwich; "The Flag Lieutenant," Colchester to Boscombe; Mr. Mark Blow's "Find the Woman," Aldershot to Leeds; Miss Glossop-Harris's company, Windsor to Bognor; "The Glad Eye," Plymouth to Aldershot; "The Little Stowaway," Birmingham to Southampton; "Miss Llewellyn," Southampton to Bournemouth; "Lively Lucerne," Boscombe to Brighton; "Brewster's Millions," Stockport to Portsmouth; Miss Aurora's Lions, Barnstaple to Mountain Ash; the Rio Brothers, Kingston to Newcastle-on-Tyne; "Chicago Girls," Eastleigh to Weymouth; Monkey Music Hall, Portsmouth to Plymouth; the Six Durhams, Portsmouth to Southampton; Carter Livesey's company, Portsmouth to Waterloo; Henri De Vries' "Submarine F 7," Waterloo to Devonport (travelling by the 12.30 p.m. express).

LONDON, BRIGHTON AND SOUTH COAST RAILWAY.

Theatrical movements, Sunday next:—"His Indian Wife," Stoke-on-Trent to Brighton; "Uncle Tom's Cabin" Co., Norwich to Eastbourne; Houdini Co., Portsmouth Town to Victoria; "Looking for Trouble" Co., Eastbourne to Brighton; "Mid Pleasures and Palaces" Co., Brighton to Victoria; "Collier's Lass" Co., Portsmouth Town to Great Yarmouth; "Sunshine Girl" Co., Brighton to New Cross; "Bunty Pulls the Strings" Co., Eastbourne to Brighton; "Gipsy Love" Co., East Croydon to Oxford; "Chocolate Soldier" Co., Crystal Palace to Wolverhampton; Village Sports Co., London Bridge to Portsmouth Town; Lockhart's Elephants, Guildford to Eastbourne; "Lovely Lucerne" Co., Boscombe to Brighton; Glossop-Harris Co., Windsor to Bognor; "Quaker Girl" Co., Hanley to Crystal Palace; Iden Baynes's Co., Oxford to Eastbourne.

Our suggestion as to the "cutting" of "The Pretenders" at the Haymarket has been followed. The blue pencil has been used, with the result of much improving the play, which goes much better for the abbreviation.

Mr. Harold Lloyd (Mr. Cyril Maude's manager for No. 1 company "Bunty"), who recently underwent a severe operation for an affection of the throat, is, we are glad to hear, making good progress towards recovery.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

Minutes of the Council meeting held at 32, Regent-street, on Tuesday, Feb. 18. Present: Mr. Ben Webster (in the chair), Messrs. John Mortimer, F. J. Arlton, Fredk. James, Adnam Sprange, Norman Yates, W. G. Fay, J. Benedict Butler, Wyn Weaver, William Devereux, Murri Moncrieff, Clarence Derwent, C. F. Collings, Miss Lucy Sibley, Miss Laura Leycester, Miss Beatrice Chester, Miss Judith Kyrle, Miss Phyllis Broughton, and Mr. D. Young (secretary).

The chairman read a letter from Mr. Cyril Cattley regretting his absence from the council meeting, and asking that the following resolution should be inserted in the minutes: "That the Council of the Actors' Association again respectfully begs to draw the attention of the Commissioners of the National Health Insurance Act to the great difficulties which artistes and others on tour experience in obtaining medical benefits under the Act, and the Council therefore respectfully ventures to suggest to the Commissioners that all such artistes and workers who hold fully stamped cards shall, owing to the frequency with which they are compelled to change their addresses, be given special cards which will gain immediate attention from any doctor on any local panel"; and it was proposed that Mr. Cattley be thanked for his letter, and informed that the matter had already been placed before the Commissioners. The resolution, in the absence of Mr. Cattley, was taken over by Mr. Fay, and, on the motion of Mr. Arlton, seconded by Mr. Sprange, it was agreed to publish it in the minutes.

The secretary read a letter from a member making a complaint against a manager, and it was agreed that her case be referred to the hon. solicitor to deal with.

The secretary read a letter from a town clerk informing the council that improvements of a theatre were in progress, also a letter from the town clerk of another town, enclosing a statement from the borough surveyor, pointing out that the theatre was in good condition, and the secretary was instructed to thank him for his letter, and say that the council were glad to hear that since the complaint had been made the matter has been attended to.

The secretary read a letter from Miss Rose Mathews, informing the council that she had been elected a life member of the Play Actors, and therefore wished to renew her membership of the Association, and the secretary was instructed to send her the necessary particulars.

The secretary read a letter from Dr. A. H. Rideal, a medical officer, asking the council to elect Dr. Allen Finn, of Ebury-street, on the list of hon. medical officers, and on the motion of Mr. Mortimer, seconded by Mr. Sprange, Dr. Finn was elected.

The secretary read letters from Mr. Douglas Munro, Mr. Arthur Dennis, and Mr. Fredk. Morland, all regretting their inability to be present at the council meeting.

The Finance Committee's report was read by Mr. Mortimer, and, on the motion of Mr. Sprange, seconded by Miss Leycester, agreed to.

Mr. Devereux, Mr. Webster, and Mr. Derwent were unanimously elected to serve on the Standard Contract Committee, with Mr. Arlton as reserve, and the secretary was instructed to write to the Society of West End Managers asking them whether Monday, 24th, or Thursday, 27th inst., at 2.30, would suit their convenience.

The Finance Committee—Messrs. Arlton, Fredk. Morland, Cyril Cattley, Adnam Sprange, John Mortimer, Arthur Dennis, and Miss Lucy Sibley—and the House Committee—Messrs. Norman Yates, John Mortimer, Wyn Weaver, J. Benedict Butler, Fredk. James, F. J. Arlton, Miss Leycester, Miss Chester, and Miss Kyrle—were unanimously appointed, with power to add to their numbers.

On the motion of Mr. Sprange, seconded by Mr. Mortimer, it was agreed that the Kitchen and House Committees be merged into one.

Mr. Hayden Coffin regretted that family illness prevented his attendance, and two resolutions in his name were deferred.

Elections: Margaret Morris, H. B. Green, Ernita Lascelles, Joan Russel, Daisy Race, and Gladys G. Cunningham. Nominations: Lilian Hallowes, Madge Mann, Vincent W. Lawson, Shirley Dalton, and Stacey Gaunt.

The question of the matinée was brought before the council, and instructions were given to the secretary to place it on the agenda for next meeting.

Mr Mortimer tendered a report of the ball held on the 7th inst., informing the council that arrangements were not completed, but he estimated a profit of about £25 to £30.

Mr. Derwent asked the chairman for a ruling with regard to the voting of members of the council in regard to council resolutions at annual general meetings, and what should govern their actions with regard to what are ostensibly council resolutions, and the chairman gave it as his opinion that no matter how diverse the views of any individual member might be, they should be waived and the member should vote with the council, or refrain from voting entirely, or, as an alternative, resign from the council.

A RECENT COMMENT ON OUR WORK—

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Feb. 18, 1913.

Dear Sirs,—

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(Signed) OSWALD MARSHALL (Stage Manager).

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A. W. FISHER (General Manager).

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A Stamped addressed Envelope must be enclosed with application for each Letter. No Circulars or Parcels admitted to this List.

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Ashby, Miss Dorothy
Athas and Collins
Austin, Mr. S. J.

Bair, Miss Enid
Ball, Mr. Ernest
Ball, Mr. W.
Banzai Family
Bard, Miss Nellie
Beere, Mrs. Bernard
Bell, Mr. W. G. B.
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Burnell, Mr. Geo. R.
Burnett, Mrs. F. H.
Burton, Mr. Aidrie
Burton, Mr. Percy
Bute, Mr. L.

Caicedo, Mr. Juan A.
Calcott, Miss Cissie
Calvert, Mr. Louis
Carlyle, Mr. Ivan
Casey, Miss Dorothy
Chappell, Mr. Archie
Clark, Miss Dorothy
Clayton, Mr. William
Cochran, Mr. Chas.
Codling, Mr. A. J.
Codling, Mrs.
Collings, Miss Patricia
Colven, Mr. Joe
Connor, Mr. T. J.
Corolli, Miss J.
Crackles, Mr. William
Cronin, Mr. M.
Cross, Mr. A. B.
Cruikshank, Mr.
Cumberland, Mr. E. G.
Cummin and Seaham

Davidson, Mr. John
Davis, Mr. Fred.
Dawsone, Mr. Percy
Dennis, Mr. Will
Denville, Miss Lillie
Derson, Miss Winnie
Devi, Mr. Geo.
Doris and Francis
Drew, Mr. John E.
Driver, Mr. Edgar
Drury, Miss Lily
Duse, Mme. Eleonora
Edams, Mr. G.
Everard, Mr. Walter
Fannan, Mr. P.
Fawn, Miss Harriet
Field, Miss Daisy
Fields, Mr. W. C.
Fink, Miss Edith
Fishburn, Capt.
Fortescue, Miss
Fossett, Mr. Harry

Gallimore Trio
Gelman, Mr. A.
Gess, Mr. Henry
Gilmour, Mr. A.
Glad Idlers, The
Glennie, Mr. L.
Glynn, Miss
Godwin, Miss Olive
Goodsall, Mr. A.
Granville, Miss H.
Gray, Mr. G. H.
Hall, Mr. J. W.
Harvard, Mr. George.
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Holden, Mr. Thomas
Holding, Mr. Thos.
Holland, Mr. Ellis R.
Holloway, Mr.
Holloway, Mr. Baliol
Hope, Mrs. A.
Hornsey, Mr. Leonard
Hull, Mr. Jas. Bradley
Humber, Miss Fanny
Hunt, Mr. R. A.
Hyatt, Mr. Percival
Imeson, Mr. Ernest
Irving, Miss Daisy
Ives and Bros.

Jensen, Mr. Louis
Johns, Miss Jennie
Julian, Mons.

Kellermann, Miss A.
Kendal, Miss Marie
Kendal, Mr. and Mrs.
King, Miss
Knights, Mme. L.

La Martine, Mr. Herbert
Land, Mr. Fred
Landa, Mr. Jack
Latchford, Miss Gertie
Laurens, Senorita M.
Lauri, Mr.
Laurie, Miss Carrie
Lawrence, Mr. Gem
Lawrence, Mr. P.
Leete, Mr. F. D.
Leif, Miss Tiny
Leigh, Mr. Andrew G.
Leigh, Mr. Arthur
Lina and Vane
Levaine, Mr. Harry
Levane, Mme. Ida
Lewis, Mr. Arthur
Lind, Miss Letty
Lindsay, Mr. Kenneth
Lloyd, Miss Florence
Lorimer, Mr. Jack
Luigi, Signor Dallara

Macdonald, Miss Nellie
McIntosh, Miss Madge
McKay, Mr. D. S.
MacMahon, Mr. Chas.
McMikol, Miss Mattie
McPherson, Mr. Mervyn
Macpherson, Miss K.
McQuire, Mr. T. C.
Madgewick, Mr. Percival
Mahers, The Three
Mannix, Mr. J. J.
Mansfield, Miss Genevieve
Mareo, Mr. Eric
Mayfren, Miss Mary
Melville, Mr. Jack
Meredro, Miss M.
Middleton, Mr. John D.
Morris, Mr. Allen
Mozart, Mr. T.
Mudie, Mr. Geo.
Murray, Miss Gertie

Naase, Miss Caroline
Nethersole, Miss Olga
Norman, Mr. Norman V.
Norrie, Mr. Russell
Northcote, Mr. A.
Nuku, Mr. H. M.

Ohmy, Mr.

Paxton, Mr.
Payne, Mr. B. Iden
Peterman, Mr. Joe
Pinder, Mr. Eddy
Pollock, Mr. Horace
Purchase, Mr. A.

Randolph, Miss Louise
Reano, Mr. T. H.
Revy, Miss Aurelie
Reynolds, Mr. Harry
Reynolds, Mr. Thomas
Rhyde, Mr. Thos.
Rice and Shepherd
Riorin, Mr. Karl
Roberts, Mr. Ralph
Robertson, Miss Agnes
Robinson, Mr. Phil
Romeo, Missouri
Rose, Mr. Leonard
Rosmer, Mr. Milton
Russell, Mr. Leonard

Sachse Mr.
Sallier Sisters
Sampson, Mr. C. A.
Samuels, Mr. Dave
Sargent, Mr. Herbert C
Seymour, Miss Maude
Seymour, Mr. O. G.
Shaw, Mr. W. B.
Sinclair, Miss Vi
Sleath, Mr. Herbert
Smith, Mr. F. E.
Smyth Family
Spaulton, Mr.
Stavordale Quintette
Stiles, Mr. Leslie
Storey, Mr. Fred
Stuart, Mr. Leslie
Sullivan, Mr. Gerald
Summers, Mrs. Mary

Tate, Miss Beth
Taylor, Rev. A. R.
Thomas, Mr. Rhys
Thorne, Miss Marguerite
Thorpe and Coe
Tonia, Miss Josie
Toy, Mr. Henry S.
Turner, Mr. Alun
Tyrrell, Miss Florence

Valli Valli, Miss
Van Biene, Mr. Karl
Van Earle, Mme.
Vane, Mr. T. G.

Walls, Mr. Tom
Walter, Mr. Eugene
Ward, Miss Fanny
Ward, Mr. Albert (American juggler.)
Watson, Miss Mabel
Wentworth, Miss Fanny
Wentworth, Mr. Reg.
Wheelan, Mr. Albert
Whistling Coon
Willard, Mr. James
Williams, Miss Gwen
Wilton, Mr. E.
Wingfield, Mr. Ernest
Wise, Mr. Jack
Wisper
Worrall, Mr. L.
Woulfe, Mr. F. B.
Wright, Mr. Percy
Wynne, Miss Wish

Yates, Miss Katie
Yelding, Mr. R.
Zuma

RE-ADDRESSING.

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A Beethoven letter, dated Sept. 23, 1810, only briefly catalogued, was held to be a prize, and reached £51 at a sale at Sotheby's on Wednesday, and one from Schubert saying his own quartets are not worth much, £70. The original holograph of Mendelssohn's motet, "Surrexit Pastor," made £85. Eighteen letters addressed to Hepworth Dixon, the editor of the "Athenæum," by Dickens on Bacon, in one of which he states: "I don't believe he was a bribed judge; I don't believe he was a false friend or an ungrateful man," brought £76; and, lastly, the original manuscript of Tennyson's "On a Spiteful Letter" realised £61.

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THE NEW MIDDLESEX.

On Monday, Feb. 17, the Play, entitled "TRILBY."

This excellent attraction was finely acted by the company, and was received with every indication of approval. In the title-rôle Miss Grace Illingworth ecored a distinct success, her appearance and acting being all that could be desired. Mr. Charles Garry merits the highest eulogy for his effective impersonation of Svengali, his performance evidencing careful study of this difficult part. As Talbot Wynne (Taffy) Mr. Philip Darien was particularly good; Sandy McAllister (the Laird) received adequate attention from Mr. G. H. Kersley; another fine character, Little Billee, reflected much credit upon his impersonator, Mr. Henri Dore. Mr. Brian Daly's rendition of Gecko proved quite acceptable; Zou Zou was well played by Mr. Bert C. Wynn; a clever piece of character acting was furnished by Mr. Will Smith, who was entrusted with the part of the Rev. Mr. Bagot; and Manager Kaw was capitally portrayed by Mr. Arthur Elston. Miss Gertrude F. Godart proved her versatility by her finished impersonation of Billee's mother (Mrs. Bagot). Mme. Vinard was acted in a capable manner by Miss Heba Barlow. The staging and dressing were noticeable features in a good all round production, for which stage-manager Charles A. East is responsible. The applause at the fall of the curtain was hearty and prolonged.

The variety turns, which precede "Trilby," included Ando's Happy Little Japs, a wonderfully clever combination of Japanese equilibrists and entertainers, who introduced the Daring Slide for Life on a rope suspended between the gallery and stage, a feat accomplished by a lady, her triumphant descent being rewarded by enthusiastic plaudits. Miss Fifi Ronay and her educated comedy poodles met with hearty recognition; C. J. Johnson, the Black Diamond, displayed ability as a singer and dancer; on the Bioscope a capital film showed a realistic scene, "A tempest in the Bay of Biscay." The popular Middlesex maintains its reputation, and Manager Garnham has just cause for satisfaction with the results of his efforts to attract.

A young man, named Alfred Smith, was committed for trial on Tuesday, on the charge of attempting to blow open a safe at the Theatre Royal, Breck-road, Liverpool. His lips and chin were covered with plaster, and it was alleged he had used gunpowder for blowing open the safe, and had been injured by the explosion. He was stated to have said: "I had the light at the end of a stick and stood near the door, but it went off too quickly. The two other fellows cleared to the top of the building; they were frightened."

Mr. F. Edgar Manaton, for many years associated with the firm of Baring Bros., of Cheltenham, has been appointed business-manager to the Dudley Opera House and Hippodrome Co., Ltd. Mr. Manaton comes to Dudley with a high reputation in the theatrical business world. He was engaged with Messrs. Baring Bros. as far back as nineteen years ago. He remained with that firm for six years. At the end of 1897 Mr. Manaton joined Morell and Mouillot, the well-known musical comedy producers, with whom he remained for ten years. He was for a few years resident-manager of the Opera House, Tunbridge Wells.

OUR AMATEURS.

Sir Arthur Pinero's "Trelawny of the Wells"—a play which depends for its interest and success on its "mid-Victorian" atmosphere and clever character drawing rather than on its slight and obvious "plot"—received the best of interpretations from the Carrick A.D.S. at the Court Theatre on the 14th and 15th inst. A revival of such a "costume play" is perhaps useful to temper our superficial condemnation of these obsolete fashions as "hideous," and to bring home the fact of the inevitable victory of personality over dress. As is usual with this clever and efficient society, the office of critic is rendered almost a sinecure, and it would be an easier, though less grateful, task to enumerate the few performers who did not reach the standard of "excellent" than to individually and monotonously praise the remainder of the cast. As Rose Trelawny, Miss Elsie Davidson by her pathetic charm added another to her gallery of clever portraits. Miss Elsa Cutler was a delightfully natural and warm-hearted Avonia Bunn, and Mrs. Arthur E. Salmon a capable and confident Imogen Parrott. The self-effacing Tom Wrench of Mr. Clive Brook, the fluent and important James Telfer of Mr. Allen Douglas, and the Siddons-like Mrs. Telfer of Miss Marjorie Durrant, were all "living" characters. Of the "non-theatrical folk," carefully differentiated on the play-bill, Mr. Vernon Leftwich's Vice-Chancellor, Sir William Gower, was a study in tyrannical and virile senility. Miss Hilda Burrow's genial and motherly Mrs. Mossop was spontaneously exuberant, and the "Trafalgy" Gower of Miss Maud Drew was a veritable maiden aunt of the old school. Mr. Frank J. Gerson was restrained as Arthur Gower, and Mr. George Quennell as Colpoys and Mr. A. W. Cutler as Ablett were humorous as consciously and unconsciously "funny men." The performances were under the direction of Mr. T. Ireby Cape, the proceeds on Friday being devoted to the funds of the German Hospital at Dalston.

The Dagonet Club, though in its eighteenth year, is modestly reticent as to the number and names of the pieces it has hitherto produced, but the choice of "The Earth," Mr. J. B. Fagan's "modern play" in four acts, given at the Cripplegate Theatre on Feb. 17, resulted in an interesting performance which merited greater support than it apparently received from friends of the society. As one of the dramas of commerce in which the love interest is not the main factor in the plot, its appeal to the "woman in the stalls" was on this account perhaps not quite strong enough. Mr. C. Wills Pearson was responsible for the production, and also played easily the part of the Right Hon. Denzil Trevenna, M.P., the introduction of whose "Wages Bill" was so keenly opposed by the individualistic newspaper proprietor. In the strong scene between the two men in the third act Mr. Pearson did not overact the emotional stress which the trapped M.P. was enduring, but nevertheless scored by his restrained methods. Mr. Frederick J. Lawson as Sir Felix Janion succeeded in eliciting a grudging respect for the self-confident strength and other good qualities of the successful man so unconscious of his own limitations. Mr. Arthur Gardiner showed versatility by doubling the parts of the dissipated blasé Earl of Killone and the Scotch "religious editor," the Rev. Malcolm Mackenzie, whose appearance for a few minutes in the last act was an effective one. Mr. Harry H. Pearce's boisterously Irish Michael Dickson formed a contrast to the cultured but disillusioned editor, Roger Morrish, as played by Mr. Peter Bruff. Miss Margaret Hathaway as the Countess of Killone was always pretty, pathetic, and graceful, even if she did not always realise the full possibilities of the part. Miss Clare Pearman played the small part of Miss Janion effectively, and Miss Enid Moore did what she could with the unsympathetic society journalist, Lady Susan Sturrage. The profits of the performance were devoted to the Hoxton Home for Babies.

The performance of "The Manœuvres of Jane" by the Allan Aynesworth D.C. at the Cripplegate Theatre on Feb. 19, amongst other things, apparently suffered from insufficient rehearsal, which gave to parts of the production something of the air of a casual drawing-room charade, and our attention was distracted from the development of the plot by musings on such trivial problems as, for instance, why some of the characters who appeared in the Chaney-court drawing-room on "an April afternoon" had chosen to dress for dinner so early. Mr. Edmund Daly worked hard, both as assistant prompter and in his character of Lord Bapchild, of which rather impossible part he gave a humorous and consistent rendering. Miss Annie Hughes as the landlady of the "Magpie," and Mr. Leslie A. Austiss as her casual and would-be insolent husband were quite good in small parts. Miss Dora Downing was arch and emphatic as Jane Nangle; but of the acting of the remaining members of the long cast we will refrain from detailed criticism. The performance was given in aid of the St. John Ambulance Brigade.

On Monday last at the Parochial Hall, Raynes-park, a complimentary concert was given to Mr. W. Dean, the popular pianist of the Raynes-park Conservative Club. The concert was timed to commence at 8 p.m., but in spite of the inclement weather prevailing the hall was well filled before the appointed time, and just after eight the pleasing announcement "Standing room only" was exhibited. An admirable programme was arranged under the direction of Mr. A. B. Herring, the popular entertainment secretary of the club. From a long programme of twenty-five turns the following are worthy of special mention. Miss Maud Longworth, who has a rich soprano voice, scored a huge success in her rendering of "Dear heart," and as an encore "Carmena." Miss Doris Palmer, a juvenile of fourteen, was very successful in "Moonlight Bay," as was also Miss Winnie Dean in her rendering of "The moon's pale light." The success of the evening was Mr. Geo. Wayne and his merry marionettes, which greatly amused both old and young. Mr. H. Newbold, "the man with the sticks," was also encored several times. As an illusionist Professor Morton was par excellence. The programme concluded shortly after 11 p.m., and it was unanimously agreed that this was one of the most successful concerts ever held at Raynes-park.

At the Stanley Hall, South Norwood, on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday last, the Nondescript Players gave a very good performance of Messager's pretty and tuneful opera, "Veronique." In the hands of Mr. E. M. Phillips, who has so successfully conducted amateur performances of grand opera at the same hall lately, the work of chorus and orchestra was safe, and though the illness of Miss Aida Collingwood necessitated a readjustment of the cast, Miss Eloise Bridgman made the most of her sweet, but not powerful, voice in filling her part of Denise. Miss Ethel Baden-Elwes as Hélène de Solanges acted easily, both as aristocrat and flower-girl, and her "Dear little donkey" and "Swing" songs (in which she was very tunefully assisted by Mr. Alec Aris as Florestan) were rapturously re-demanded. Miss Baden-Elwes should, however, overcome her habit of addressing her voice to the "flies." Florestan's easy and impressive singing of the farewell letter song was also very successful. Other good impersonations of a strong and well-balanced cast were the bustling, ubiquitous Coquenard of Mr. Herbert Strudwick, played admirably on now recognised lines; the imposing Agatha of Miss Annie Wallace, the graceful Countess de Champ Azur of Miss Emily Surridge, and the spirited and agile Seraphin of Mr. Jack Lewis, of whom we have pleasant recollections in the part of Bandolet. Mr. Frank Ballard's "inches" gave impressiveness to the small part of the orderly, and Mr. A. R. Boult was amusing as the last (but not least) of the barons. The play was produced under the direction of Mr. Rupert M. Heath.

The Balham Orchestral Society gave their second concert at the Assembly Rooms, Balham, on Wednesday evening last. The programme was made up exclusively of classic numbers, and the large and critical audience found no difficulty in bestowing their favours upon the eminently pleasing performance. With a strength of fifty trained instrumentalists, the conductors, Dr. Ralph Dunstan (Mus. Doc. Cantab) and Mr. Allan Brown (Fellow of the Royal College of Organists) each led their men successfully and well through the intricacies of such difficult works as Weber's "Oberon," Beethoven's "No. 1 in C," consisting of the Adagio molto and the Allegro con brio, Tschaikoweky's famous "Casse-Noisette" suite, the Ouverture Miniature, Danses Caracteristique, and the Valse des fleurs, and Elgar's "Pomp and Circumestance No. 1." The execution of all was, without exception, brilliant, and the rendition of Tschaikowsky's very trying compositions was particularly fine. The wind, wood, and strings responded in perfect rhythm to every beat, and the network of instrumental complexities, with which, for instance, the first movement of the suite is charged, was surmounted and overcome with true precision. The orchestra is a skilled one, and each performer is an artiste at his or her (for there are eleven ladies among the company of thirty-one strings) work. The vocalists included the well-known concert-room singers, Miss Carrie Lanceley (Royal Albert Hall) and Mr. Walter Kingsley (Queen's Hall). Mr. Ernest Haywood was the accompanist.

In the Provinces.

The Manchester Athenæum Dramatic Society has had to postpone its plans for the building of a theatre pending negotiations with the Corporation. It is therefore unlikely that this veteran society will have its own playhouse during the next season.

Always to the fore with novelties, the Athenæum amateurs gave the first performance in Manchester of Arnold Bennett's play, "The Honeymoon," on Friday and Saturday of last week.

The beautiful Midland Theatre was filled with a fashionable crowd on the subscribers' night, who gave a warm reception to the plays and players. Probably the second play—Mr. A. Strong's "The Drums of Oude"—was the artistic success of the evening. This tragic little work was produced and most capably stage-managed by Mr. Norman Oddy, who also played the part of Lieutenant Hartley with the necessary youthful enthusiasm. Mr. Frank Nasmith played Captain Hector Macgregor with excellent restraint and sangfroid. He was particularly successful in the opening part of the play. Miss Elsie Frost was a dainty heroine, and invested the somewhat insipid part of Mrs. Clayton with tenderness and charm. The small parts of Sergeant McDougal (well played by Mr. George Nicholl), the Hindoo servants, and the sentry showed careful rehearsal and attention to detail. Mr. W. H. Clemson is to be congratulated on the scenic and lighting effects. The dénouement would have been more satisfactory if the bagpipes had been more clearly heard. At the first performance the pipes did not sufficiently dominate the final scene.

Perhaps "The Honeymoon" is not a play for amateurs. With the personality of a Miss Marie Tempest the play rattled away merrily enough, but if we are to be frank, we must admit that there were moments when it hung fire on Friday last. Miss Alice Hughes made the impossible Flora Lloyd sufficiently attractive. Her frocks, her manner, her appearance, her graceful acting were all good and enjoyable. The one weak point in the performance was her voice, which lacked sympathy, and at times became unmusical. The aviator-bridegroom-hero, Cedric Haslam, was played with easy nonchalance by Mr. Arthur Hasleham. Miss Lola Duncan (of Miss Horniman's Gaiety company) undertook the part of Mrs. Reach Haslam, owing to the illness of the lady originally cast for the part. Mr. F. A. Mitcheson made the down-trodden husband, Mr. Reach Haslam, a sufficiently docile contrast to his wife's haughty imperiousness. The portly Bishop of Colchester was played with a due mixture of pomposity and geniality by Mr. Harold Furber, while Mr. Thurstan W. Fairhurst gave a quite delightful study of Charles Haslam—perhaps the most natural performance of the evening. We did not care for Mr. Harry Williams's conception of his part. Mr. Frampington is surely not intended to be an obvious bounder! After the references to the charms of the bogus curate we were justified in expecting a gentleman, a 'Varsity man, and a "sport," instead of which Mr. Williams appeared in clothes and make-up suitable for, say, Sam Gerridge! Mr. Frank Nasmith produced and stage-managed the play, and sank his individuality in the small part of the Swiss waiter, Gaston.

The standard of amateur dramatic work is high in Manchester, and the Athenæum Amateur Dramatic Society has given so many plays that have reached high water-mark, that it must be admitted that this latest programme is not up to the excellent standard usually achieved by its members.

Glasgow is possessed of half a dozen operatic societies of more than average merit, and one of the best known is the Glasgow Amateur Operatic Society, who on Tuesday produced "Merrie England" at the Grand Theatre before a crowded and friendly audience. Previous productions by this clever body had raised high expectations, and if these were not entirely realised, it is to be accounted for to some extent by the practice of letting the honours go round and giving the newcomers their chance. The hit of the piece was made by Mr. George L. Hardy in the Walter Passmore part of Walter Wilkins, a player in Shakespeare's company. Mr. Hardy was extremely droll from the first scene to the last, and acted throughout with all the aplomb of an old stager, while his patter songs were enunciated so clearly that not a word was missed. Miss Margaret Galbraith sang and acted very well indeed as Jill-all-Alone. Mr. Jack Dalglish made a handsome Essex, and his singing was, as before, one of the most enjoyable items in the production. Miss Beatrice May as Bessie Throckmorton, Miss Polly White as Queen Elizabeth, and Miss E. M. Mellish as the May Queen all gave good renderings of their parts. Mr. J. Livingston Dykes ably filled in with business the small part of the Queen's Fool; Mr. John Speir as Raleigh has a sweet tenor voice; Mr. J. Anderson was amusing as Silas Simkins; and Messrs. Jack Wylie and James F. Whitton made a striking couple as the Royal Foresters. A solo dance was neatly carried through by Miss Gwladys McRoberts, and generally the dancing of the entire company was very good, while the chorus work was excellently sung. The production is for five nights and a matinée on Saturday.

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ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

[We do not answer inquiries by post. In all letters the names and addresses of inquirers must be given as a guarantee of good faith. Initials only or pseudonyms will be used in the answers if so desired.]

STRINGER BATEMAN *and* "CRUSADER."—*See note on leader page.*

D. C.—*Much obliged for the correction in your letter. We have noted the omission.*

JACK BROOKE.—*We cannot tell you. Her agents would know. We do not answer querics by post.*

NEBBID.—*We do not answer anonymous correspondents. Full name must be given, not necessarily for publication.*

GEORGE E. RODGERS.—*Your question involves a good deal of search, and we will answer it next week in this column. We do not reply to correspondents by post.*

P. W.—*The new Act gives you the copyright. There are no formalities whatever to secure it. Before you can play it, however, you should get (at least seven days before production) the Lord Chamberlain's licence. You should apply to the Examiner of Plays, St. James's Palace, S.W.*

C. W. WILKINSON.—*You are properly liable for playing the sketch in question without a dramatic licence. The custom in London is to grant the double licences so as to get over the indignity of seeing music hall and theatrical people taking proccedings against one another for a very technical breach of the law. In many of the towns in the country they will not grant the double licences and then the old law remains, under which a sketch in a music hall is technically illegal.*

F. C. (Little Britain).—(1) *The Alhambra was run as a theatre before it was burnt down in 1882. It lost its dancing licence in 1870. When it was rebuilt and opened in December, 1883, it was still run as a theatre. In October, 1884, it was again opened as a music hall.* (2) *The Empire opened as a theatre with a revival of "Chilperic" on April 17, 1884.* (3) *Zæo was shot from a board, Zazel from a cannon.* (4) *It was "Blue-Eyed Susan," comic opera, in three acts, by G. R. Sims and Henry Pettitt, in which Arthur Roberts played the character of Doggrass at the Prince of Wales's on Feb. 6, 1892. We do not answer correspondents by post.*

COMIC OPERA.—(1) *Mr. Auguste Van Biene's company opened on Monday, March 14, 1892, at T.R., Brighton, in "La Mascotte," with Florence St. John as Ballina, Mr. J. C. Piddock as Pippo, Charles M'Lagan as King Laurent, Luigi Catalini as Fritellini, Belle Harcourt as Fiametta, and Bernard Mervyn as Rocco. On the Thursday and Friday "Rip Van Winkle" occupied the boards, with Van Biene as Rip and Florence St. John as Gretchen. There is no mention of the stage-manager in our report.* (2) *"Carmen Up To Data." with Amy Augarde in the title-rôle, came to the T.R., Brighton, on Monday, Aug. 15, 1892. Mr. Edmund Payne, according to our report, was not in the cast. A Mr. H. G. Payne played Remendado. Again there is no mention of stage-manager.*

F. G.—*This depends upon the conditions at the particular music hall where the sketch is to be played. In London and some of the provincial music halls a double licence is granted—that is, the music and dancing licence as well as a stage play licence. In such cases there are generally no restrictions on the number of characters, etc., in the sketch, although inquiries should be made beforehand. In other halls in which the double licence is not granted a production of a music hall sketch is technically illegal. With regard to the Lord Chamberlain's licence, a copy must be sent to the Lord Chamberlain's office, St. James's Palace, S.W., seven days at least before the first acting thereof. The reading fee must be paid at the same time—that is, for every play of three acts, £2 2s., and for every play of less than three acts, £1 1s.*

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a Birth, a Marriage, or a Death, or an "In Memoriam" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is One Shilling and Sixpence.

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

DEATHS.

BIGWOOD.—Feb. 11, at Southend-on-Sea, George Barnes Bigwood, retired actor, aged 84.

CHUTE.—On Feb. 19, at his residence, 167, Ashmore-road, W., John Coleman Chute, in his 94th year.

FOX.—On Feb. 8, at 29, Maples-street, Nottingham, after a painful illness, Fred Fox, scenic artist, aged 51 years. A husband and father.

LEWIS.—Feb. 8, Leslie Lewis, late musical conductor at the Ipswich Hippodrome.

SHIPMAN-PROSSER.—On Feb. 16 at Lozells, Birmingham, Dr. R. A. Shipman-Prosser, M.R.C.S. (Eng.), L.S.A. (Lond.), etc., father of Sara Mignon (Mrs. Rollo Balmain), in his 73rd year.

TEARLE.—Feb. 4, at Brighton, Edmund Tearle, actor, aged 58.

WILSON.—On Feb. 15, at Kensington House, Broad Walk, Buxton, from heart failure, John Henry, the dearly loved husband of Addie Wilson (Addie Conyers), of Manchester, and 17, Bedford Court-mansions, London.

IN MEMORIAM.

DUBOIS.—In sweet memory of my darling husband, James Dubois, who fell asleep Feb. 20, 1907. Never forgotten by his loving wife and children.

DUBOIS.—In ever loving memory of our dear brother, James Dubois, who left us Feb. 20, 1907. Always remembered by his loving sister and brother, Sally and Jimmy Rallis.

DUBOIS.—In affectionate remembrance of my old friend, James Dubois, who left us Feb. 20, 1907. Ernest Dottridge.

DUBOIS. — In fond and sweetly cherished memory of my darling brother Jim (James Dubois), who fell asleep Feb. 20, 1907. Sister Jess. "Jesus called his loved ones home."

FULLER.—In loving memory of John Fuller, who died Feb. 10, 1909. Not forgotten by his loving son and daughter, Alf and Marie Santoi.

JUDGE.—In fond remembrance of Mr. William Judge (Judge's Cockatoos), who died Feb. 24, 1903. Still sadly missed by his loving wife, sons, and daughters.

We loved him in life,
He is dear to us still;
But in grief we must bend
To God's holy will.

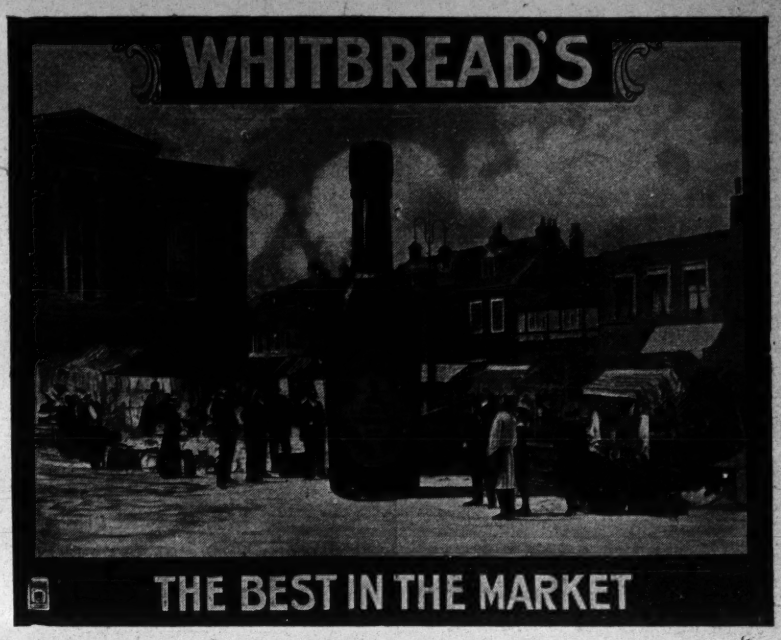
LORENZI.—In ever loving memory of my dear husband, Frank Lorenzi (Sisters Phillips and Brothers Lorenzi), who passed away Feb. 19, 1906. Gone but never forgotten by his ever loving wife and family.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish the following ladies and gentlemen many happy returns of the day:—

Bertram Wallis—Saturday, Feb. 22.
Kate Rorke—Saturday, Feb. 22.
Will Oliver—Sunday, Feb. 23.
Miss Mabel Sinclair—Sunday, Feb. 23.
Noel Phelps—Monday, Feb. 24.
Cecil Howard Turner—Monday, Feb. 24.
Bobbie Andrews—Monday, Feb. 24.
James Stillwell—Tuesday, Feb. 25.
W. V. Garrod—Tuesday, Feb. 25.
Grace Warner—Wednesday, Feb. 26.
N. B. Cannen—Wednesday, Feb. 26.
Walter Roberts—Wednesday, Feb. 26.
Arthur B. Murray—Wednesday, Feb. 26.
J. H. Barnes—Wednesday, Feb. 26.
Ellen Terry—Thursday, Feb. 27.
Sidney Cooper—Thursday, Feb. 27.
Eyre Robson—Thursday, Feb. 27.
J. B. Howard—Thursday, Feb. 27.
Sir Charles Santley—Friday, Feb. 28.
J. F. Elliston—Friday, Feb. 28.
E. V. Page—Friday, Feb. 28.
Frank Harvey—Friday, Feb. 28.

"I'll swear upon that bottle."
—*Tempest, Act ii., Scene ii.*



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—*Henry VI., Act ii., Scene iii.*

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THE ERA

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1913.

THE SHAKESPEARE MEMORIAL FUND.

WANTED—A BALANCE-SHEET.

The articles which have appeared in "The Era" during the last few weeks have stirred up the reticent little world that manages the Shakespeare Memorial Fund. At the start of the campaign of inquiry organised in "The Era," and since taken up in a very able manner by the "Daily Graphic," four direct questions were asked in these columns. These questions were:—

1. What are the amounts contributed, or collected, by individuals, the names of those individuals, the places of collection, and the dates of paying in?

2. What is the rent of the offices in Whitehall House, and what are, and have been since the scheme was started, the salaries of the principal officials, and the general expenses of "running" the fund?

3. What is the exact nature of the "political obstacles" in connection with the L.C.C.?

4. What have been exactly the relations, financial and otherwise, between the Fund and the Shakespeare Exhibition at Earl's Court?

To none of these questions has any proper official answer been supplied, although Mr. HEYER, the Secretary of the Fund, has been interviewed in the "Daily News," and has said: "The accounts are produced annually, and they are open for inspection on my table here, any day and all day, for any member of the committee to come in and look them over."

As against this statement of Mr. HEYER's, however, we must set the following extract from an outspoken article in "The New Age" of June 22, 1911, written by Mr. WM. POEL:—

"On Jan. 10, 1910, Mr. PHILIP CARR wrote to me asking me for my subscription of £1 for 1910. I replied that I could not subscribe again *until I had received a balance-sheet for* 1909." Mr. POEL, as will be seen from his letter in another column, declares that he has been asking for this balance-sheet ever since.

To resume, Mr. HEYER, further in his interview, seeks to excuse the secrecy with which the business of the Fund is conducted by flourishing the names of the Finance Committee, but our answer to that point is that it is because these names are names of men of such high standing that we are more than ever astonished that no proper reports and accounts of the Shakespeare Memorial Fund are published.

"The public are asked to be patient for a little time yet. Rome was not built in a day, and 1916 is not here yet." We still quote from Mr. HEYER's interview reported in the "Daily News." We think after the articles and correspondence which have been published that this is indeed a feeble reply to our demand for information. Truly enough Rome was not built in a day, but *was* built eventually.

The accounts which Mr. HEYER refers to as being produced annually may lie upon Mr. HEYER's table, as he says; but why are they not published to the subscribers all over the country who, in response to lectures by eminent actors like Mr. MARTIN HARVEY, have subscribed to the Fund. Is a man to journey from a town in the North to Mr. HEYER's office in Dean's Yard, Westminster, to obtain information as to how the money he has given is being dealt with? We should have thought that Mr. HEYER, who is reported to have had many years' experience as a professional beggar (we quote the words from the interview in the *Daily News*), would have known better.

Sir HERBERT TREE was kind enough at the annual meeting of the Actors' Association to respond to the questions asked by "The Era." It is quite beyond our understanding why a fund with a paid Secretary, and an extensive committee, should take up the time of probably the busiest man in the profession, by asking him to answer questions which should be properly and officially answered by the Secretary from the offices of the Fund.

The inquiry instituted by "The Era" has had one curious result. A gentleman called at the offices of the Fund on Tuesday and asked for a pamphlet or some printed matter which would give him particulars regarding the object and aim of the Fund. He was informed that no pamphlet or printed matter of any kind could be given out for about three weeks.

So at any rate for the next three weeks the Shakespeare Memorial Fund is going to endeavour to outdo itself at its own game of playing in the dark.

With reference to the interview which we published with Mrs. CORNWALLIS WEST, our readers will remember that she took the view that "The Era" should not be troubling itself about what she described as other people's business; and she added, "I should think more of 'The Era' if it turned a deaf ear to all criticisms of the National Theatre Fund Committee." One would naturally enjoy the good opinion of a lady of Mrs. CORNWALLIS WEST's character; but if we are to choose between having a committee that conducts its business in the light of day and that good opinion we shall most certainly select the committee.

Mr. MARTIN HARVEY having taken a very active interest in this movement, and having collected from the general public by lecturing something over £1,000, which he has handed to the Committee, a representative of "The Era" interviewed him at Leicester on Wednesday evening, and the report of that interview is printed on this page.

Mr. MARTIN HARVEY takes a standing loyal to his colleagues on the Executive Committee; and we admire his chivalrous and honourable attitude. But we cannot point out too clearly that, inasmuch as he has collected a sum of £1,000, more or less, from the public, and handed that money to the Shakespeare Memorial Fund, he must be morally responsible to the public from whom he collected it for its safe keeping; and he should therefore demand that an account which would be at the disposal of the subscribers who subscribed through him be immediately published by the fund. For Mr. HEYER to plead that such accounts are "on his table" is no justification.

With what the "Daily Graphic" describes as our trenchant persistence, we still demand the publication of a full account of the doings of those responsible for this public trust.

The "Daily Graphic" has interviewed Professor GOLLANCZ, and has at last succeeded in getting his view of the whole situation. With one question asked by the "Graphic" representative we are particularly concerned. It is this: "Is the Executive Council absolutely in the dark as regards finance, and ignorant of the person or persons in whom financial authority is vested?"

The following was Professor GOLLANCZ's reply to this:—

"On every sheet of paper issued from the office of the Shakespeare Memorial it is stated that the following are the trustees of the fund, namely, Lord LYTTON, Lord AVEBURY, and the Hon. ALFRED LYTTELTON, who is also hon. treasurer. In addition, a special finance committee has been appointed to deal with all questions of expenditure and finance, and to consider all proposals affecting finance; a committee of financiers and bankers and men of tried experience, with the one great benefactor of the fund as chairman. This committee was actually appointed by the executive, printed statements to the effect have been circulated to each member of the executive, and the appointments were voted on by the executive."

Here, again, it will be seen that evasiveness is displayed. Would it not have been better if Professor GOLLANCZ, who is the hon. secretary of the movement, could have replied: "Far from the committee being in the dark, the fund has for the last three years published properly audited statements of account."

In any case, until this properly audited statement of accounts is forthcoming, "The Era," and many other newspapers like the "Graphic," will continue to demand information. A properly published balance-sheet—not on a secretary's table, but in the hands of every subscriber—will be the only thing that will satisfy "The Era," the profession, and the public.

It has been said by Mr. HEYER that no part of the capital sum of—nobody knows exactly what—it is variously suggested at from £80,000 to £120,000 — but only the interest on this vast sum has been used to further the work of the Fund. But, we ask, is not that interest as much the property of the Fund as the capital itself; and should it not, therefore, be officially accounted for?

INTERVIEW WITH MR. MARTIN HARVEY.

"Briefly put," said our representative, "'The Era' has been asking for an account of what has been done, and what is being done, with the amount raised by public subscription for the erection of a National Theatre."

"I am a member of the Executive Committee of the Fund. It is financially sound; but I have no right to speak on behalf of the Committee. Every effort is being made and will continue to be made," said Mr. Martin Harvey.

"Have you received any account from the secretary of the fund of the moneys which by your lectures you received and handed over to the fund?"

"This money went through my hands to the Committee—something over £1,000."

"Yes; but have you had any account? And don't you think that, as you collected this money from the public, and handed it over to the fund, you ought to ask for an account of the moneys?"

"I have no right to answer any of these questions, being a member of the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee will make known, in their own good time, such information as they may think the public have a right to."

"At any rate, don't you support our application for an account?"

"I think there is no harm in stirring things up."

"'The Era' has no personal feeling against any individual; but we think it is our duty to ask for an account."

"I quite understand that."

"Don't you think the secrecy is against the interests of the fund, and does it no good?"

"I think the Committee are well advised not to make matters public at the present time. Of course, this is all *ex officio*."

"Would you make an affidavit that you lectured and collected so much money?"

"You need not fear for the amount; all is being done in the best interests of the fund."

"What is your view of your own position? Having collected this money, don't you think you ought to ask for an account?"

"There again, I cannot answer that question."

"I called at the offices of the Committee of the fund and asked for a pamphlet or prospectus, but was told that no pamphlet or printed matter relating to the fund could be had."

"No doubt there is good reason for this. Of this you may be certain—there is plenty of activity going on in regard to the National Theatre scheme. No lack of activity—things of the utmost importance are being discussed and considered at this very moment."

"You think 'The Era' is right in asking for an account?"

"I think you will do no harm in stirring things up. We all want stirring up at times. I'm afraid I haven't given you much information, but you understand my position."

MISS MILNE IN "KISMET."

Miss Georgina Milne, the accomplished and handsome young actress, who is now playing Miss Lily Brayton's part of Marsinah in Mr. George Dance's "Kismet" (North) Company, has been adding to the personal success which she deservedly gained during a five-weeks' season in Manchester. The young actress's abilities and popularity were specially recognised in a most charming manner by the Management of the New Theatre. At Newcastle, Leicester, and during the present week at Oldham, Miss Milne's talents and engaging personality have won lavish recognition in the columns of the leading local journals, and from the crowded audiences which this popular play has attracted at the above-mentioned towns. "Kismet" visits Derby next week, and Nottingham the week following.

THE BENSON COMPANY AT THE CORONET.

"The Piper," founded by Mrs. Peabody on Browning's well-known poem "The Pied Piper of Hamelin," produced on Monday and repeated on Friday, "She Stoops to Conquer" on Tuesday, "Richard II." and matinée "Henry V." on Wednesday, "Hamlet" on Thursday, "Macbeth" this afternoon, and "The Merchant of Venice" in the evening form the varied programme for the third week of the Bensonian stay at Notting Hill-gate. "The Piper," which was first produced at the St. James's Theatre early in 1911, is a weird fantastic and fanciful production, very interesting in its way, and quite unique. The scenes in which the children figure are very pretty and fanciful, and deftly managed, and the beautiful singing by Mr. Frank Cochrane of "My rainbow shawl" and "Out of your cage" is quite a feature of the production. The music, too, by Christopher Wilson, is characteristic, weird, and melodious in turn. The dresses, which are very quaint and pretty, are designed by Mrs. F. R. Benson. Act III., "In the Crossways," is an exquisite stage picture. Mr. F. R. Benson, as the Piper, gives a fine study of this remarkable creation, alternately loving and hating, noble and base, drawing to him all humanity with "his native wood notes wild." He aptly depicts the tumultuous struggle between humanity and revenge which takes place in his breast, when he finds himself faced with the alternative of bringing joy to the inhabitants of Hamelin or feeding fat his ancient group at the expense of the children. Mr. Murray Carrington acts in heroic fashion the part of Michael, the sword-eater, and Miss Ethel McDowall is very charming as the love-lorn Barbara, the Burgomeister's daughter. Miss Dorothy Green is very pathetic as Veronika, wife of Kurt, and the part of little Jan, "the shipwrecked star," is very sweetly played by little Miss Hettie Kenyon. Miss Nora Nicholson as Hansel and many other children's parts are also prettily played. Their quaint little Dutch dances and childish games are delightful. Mr. William Calvert as Jacobus, the Burgomeister; Mr. Rupert L. Conrick as Kurt, the Syndic; Mr. Harry Caine as Hans, the butcher; and Misses Marion Foreman, C. Pelissier, and Eve Titheridge, as the wives of these worthies, are all well in the picture.

The Easter attraction at the Middlesex Theatre will be a special production of "The Girl of My Heart."

Mr. Robert Ashby arrived quite safely in India, and opened with "Baby Mine" to a big house; also the following week he played Maurice in "The Glad Eye," the Press and public being enthusiastic about his performance. He has also been playing Dr. Hartley in "Bella Donna." He will continue to support Mr. Dallas in other important parts in the repertory during the tour through China, Japan, and Egypt. He will be glad to hear from old friends, "c/o Harold and Co., Calcutta."

THE NATIONAL THEATRE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—I desire to thank you sincerely for the insertion of my letter, and, with your kind permission, I desire to give you some further facts, and friendly criticism of the present movement. First, let me say that I shall be most happy, if my health permits, to support, by my presence, any meeting that may be convened, such as you propose, to demand "disclosure and progress" by the committee, and that I shall, by voice and pen, do all I can to expose and end the present very unbusinesslike procedure adopted by the executive. I challenge Mr. Gollancz to produce a properly audited balance-sheet, setting out how the moneys received have been spent—i.e., for office rent, salaries, &c. I make no accusation whatever against him. I merely seek information in the name of the public and for the honour of the great profession to which I have the honour to belong.

It is the legitimate business of "The Era" and the public to see that a balance-sheet of the fund is forthcoming at once.—Yours faithfully,

WALTER STEPHENS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—The splendid stand that you have made about the above must be upheld, and your efforts must not be relaxed one iota. Mr. Poel has said that which a large number of people think; and his views must also continue to be advanced. Miss Horniman says that she wants to know the amount of the salaries paid to the officials. So I should think! Here is a fund that has already been in hand some years, and is likely, at the present rate of speed, to go on for some years longer.

Is it true that one of the officials at least gave up an already remunerative post to secure a better position with the Fund? Are the paid officials the right men, and are they worth their money? There's the rub. As I said on a previous occasion, I quite thought that honorary officers were engaged, and not paid officials; hence my desire to join and help. But, of course, I was not wanted; that's very clear. The family concert was not to be disturbed.

I shall, of course, be only too pleased to assist you in your efforts towards the right goal, and I am sure that you will have a large measure of support from the followers of Mr. Poel and Miss Horniman.

Mr. Poel is a host in himself, and deserves something more than praise for the splendid stand he has always made in the cause of his art, and Shakespeare in particular. But let us get on with it. A fund such as your managing-director proposed surely ought to be started. When it is, my mite will be at your disposal and my services, too—quite honorary, of course.

Yours faithfully, FRANK MARSHALL.
St. Stephen's Chambers, Telegraph-street, E.C.
Feb. 18, 1913.

The following letter appeared in the "Daily News and Leader" on Wednesday:—"Sir,—That the secretary of this committee should have exuded so much of statement as he did in 'The Daily News and Leader' of this day's date verges on the astounding. That during the past three years this committee should have actually obtained two unnecessary options for the unnecessary purchase of sites for the Shakespeare Memorial Theatre is (for them) no less marvellous. An ordinary person of not unusual intelligence would accomplish thirty such options in three days. The operations of this committee in relation to real business is as Reinhardtian hocus-pocus compares with real dramatic staging.

"In Feb. 1905, at the Mansion House, the Lord Mayor in the chair, when a meeting was held to promote the erection of a memorial to Shakespeare in London (1) the London County Council offered to provide a site for the memorial, and (2) Mr. Richard Badger promised £2,000—as a first subscription, an additional £1,000—for special purposes, and £500 for working expenses.

"It is obvious that the initial business of this committee was to compel the fulfilment of the London County Council's offer of a site. Without a site no attempt at the actual construction of a memorial can be entered upon.

"The citizens of London, for the main part, are not curmudgeons. They are the freeholders of many suitable sites which the London County Council hold as their trustees. A majority would willingly give a proper site devoted for the objects of the Shakespeare Memorial in fee and tax-free and rate-free in perpetuity.

"Therefore the immediate business of this committee is somehow to wake up and get into contact with the foregoing facts. Then they will naturally cause the following question to be articulately put to every candidate for election to the next London County Council:

"Will you, if elected, support and vote the giving of a freehold site, tax-free and rate-free, for the purpose of erecting a Shakespeare Memorial Theatre thereon, such site to be conspicuously suitable, convenient, and ample, and to be transferred gratis to duly appointed trustees, who will thus represent the British nation?

"If, then, any candidate declines to respond affirmatively it will be the urgent duty of this committee to see that the least possible number of votes be polled for him, and to oppose him on every possible occasion by every means in their power.

"There appears to be one glimmer of percipience in the secretary's utterances. He apprehends that the Shakespeare Memorial Theatre must and would be a memorial to Shakespeare. A National Theatre merely among other things—incidentally, as it were. For our Supreme Citizen is an International—the greatest this modern world knows. To hear his words presented in their own language by German, French, Italian, Russian, and other foreign companies of players, in what would absolutely become an international theatre on our own soil, will be of enthralling interest to us islanders.

"Every shilling of the money already subscribed, and which yet may be subscribed, will be needed for the construction, the adornment, the faithful production of an adequate shrine where civilised man shall find himself devoutly at home.—SHAKESPEREAN.

"London, Feb. 17."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—Like the ostrich that buries its face in the sand and communicates with the outside world by the primitive expedient of wagging its tail, "The Stage" leader writer must have been almost asleep when he wrote his leader on the National Theatre progress in the issue of to-day. So far from the "Daily Graphic" having "abandoned an untenable position," and "since sought refuge in silence," I observe that in to-day's issue of the "Daily Graphic" there are three columns on this subject.

May I be allowed to say that I think it is to be regretted if there is to be any controversy between "The Stage" and your paper on this matter, but as one who is keenly interested in the National Theatre scheme, may I ask you not to allow yourselves to be influenced in any way by what this, or any other newspaper, may say, but please keep on asking for an account, and do not let the matter rest until this is forthcoming.—Yours faithfully,

MERCHANT OF VENICE.

London, Feb. 20, 1913.

[Our correspondent need feel no alarm. We have no idea of holding a controversy with "The Stage," which occasionally is unconsciously very humorous (vide its leading article this week). We should be robbed of half the joy of our existence if it ceased making its funny little mistakes.—EDITOR.]

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—In last week's "Era" Mrs. Cornwallis West makes some statements which I consider are personal to myself. I hope, therefore, you will allow me space in your columns for a reply.

The General Committee of the National Theatre is more widely representative of the nation than the Executive. It merely delegated executive powers to the smaller committee, and surely this smaller committee should periodically give a report of their actions.

At the Mansion House meeting in March, 1909—the first and last time when the General Committee were permitted to meet their executive—we were asked in a somewhat peremptory manner to contribute £1 a year each towards the working expenses, which we agreed to do; and, of course, it was expected that these payments would be recorded in published accounts. When the secretary wrote to me in the following January, reminding me that another subscription was due, I asked for a statement as to how my last £1 had been spent, and I have been asking ever since! Is this a business-like state of affairs? Why am I to continue "giving" on the understanding that no one but the executive has a right to know what is being done with the money?

Lady Gomme's statements have been denied by the executive. She has been told that accounts were submitted to her, but I have a communication from her, dated June 25, 1910, in which she says:—

"We are having a committee meeting on Thursday, and I will inquire about accounts and a financial statement. I think one was to ' issued before this, but has been held . We certainly should know something of how matters are going. The Ladies' Organising Committee got promises of a good annual amount."

Besides this letter I received, on two different occasions, letters from the honorary secretary. Here they are:—

"Feb. 14, 1910. Your letter addressed to Mr. Carr on the subject of a meeting of the General Committee was placed before the Executive Committee, and I was asked to say that in all probability there would be a meeting somewhere about May. At present there is very little to put before the general body."

The more reason, I contend, for a meeting to be called, that the General Committee may know why there is so little to report.

"June 2, 1910. As regards the meeting of the General Committee, which is to be called some time during the present year, I ought to tell you that originally it was intended to call the meeting about May or June; but, in view of the change of all arrangements, due to the death of his late Majesty, it has been necessary to put off the date till the autumn. I feel sure you will understand that this course is quite desirable. Meanwhile, pray be patient."

We are now in the month of February, 1913, and I am still told I must be "patient."

With what object do I persist in asking the Executive Committee to disclose their accounts and their plans? It is because the scheme which was sanctioned by the General Committee in March, 1909, has now become impracticable. The amount of the money asked for is far in excess of what the country is willing to give. What, then, is going to be done with the money already raised?—Yours faithfully,

WILLIAM POEL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—In your account of your representative's recent interview with Mrs. Cornwallis West, the lady is reported as saying: "You can tell your readers that I originated the Shakespeare Exhibition, organised and promoted it, and carried it through entirely 'on my own.' . . . Had it not been for the wet weather that set in I should have been able to hand over a substantial sum to the Fund."

In the reports of the case, Worsdale v. Earl's Court, Ltd., in the King's Bench Division, on Feb. 12, I read: "The defendants' share of the profits was between £17,000 and £18,000."

Is there not some discrepancy between the two statements?—Yours faithfully, PUZZLED.

THE ST. JAMES'S.

In the interval between the going of "Turandot" and the coming of a new play by Mr. A. E. W. Mason at the St. James's, Sir George Alexander has turned once again to Oscar Wilde's "trivial comedy for serious people," "The Importance of Being Earnest," which he revived on Saturday in the presence of a delighted audience. It is just eighteen years since the play was first brought out at the St. James's, but it came up again fresh and sparkling, with its brilliant epigrams and well-directed shafts of . Sir George Alexander is paying his respects to "My Lady Vaudeville," and this part of John Worthing, J.P., is accordingly entrusted to Mr. Gerald Ames. That clever actor has caught the spirit of the part, and acts with abundant verve and a keen perception of the humorous possibilities of the rôle.

No better exponent of the amiable Algernon Moncrieff could be desired than Mr. A. E. Matthews, whose style is perfectly suited to the character, and he was responsible for much hearty merriment. Miss Helen Rous is fortunately available for her former part of Lady Bracknell, and the emphatically expressed sentiments of the high-toned and haughty aristocrat were keenly relished by the audience. Miss Rosalie Toller, who also resumes a former successful impersonation, quite succeeds in looking the eighteen-year old Cecily Cardew, and her girlish grace and impulsiveness are just as perfectly assumed as her display of indignation in the pretty quarrel with the Hon. Gwendolen Fairfax. That practical young lady is daintily played Miss Dorothy Fane, whose delivery of her es is particularly to be commended. Miss e Beet again cleverly elaborates the rôle of Miss Prism, and the scenes in which she figures with the Rev. Canon Chasuble are as laughable as before. Mr. E. Vivian Reynolds, who also acts as stage-manager, gets just the right intonation as the reverend gentleman, a character in which his skill has before been commended. Mr. Austin Fehrman and Mr. Alfred Harris appear effectively as the menservants, Merriman and Lane respectively. The scenes are again beyond praise, and Mr. James Cullen is highly to be commended upon the artistic care with which they are set.

"THE ERA" PLAY COMPETITION.

In answer to numerous inquiries, the reading of the plays sent in for our Play-writing Competition is approaching conclusion, and we hope soon to announce the result.

Mr. H. F. Hous
Mormon and His W
first time in Lond
Theatre on Mond
principal part.

VARIETY GOSSIP

For some time it has been an open secret that Mr. J. M. Barrie wrote the episode, "The Dramatists Get What They Want," in the successful revue, "Hullo, Rag-time!" This episode appealed, especially on the opening night, to the large and critical audience, among whom were Mr. Barrie and Mr. Bernard Shaw, for it possesses an inner knowledge of the intellectual drama that could only be the acquirement of a dramatist and critic; and Mr. Barrie is both. But why did not Mr. Bernard Shaw also try his hand in the London Hippodrome revue?

Next week Mr. George Robey takes his benefit at the T.R., Birmingham, where he is announced to appear in a sketch, "Ninepence for Fourpence." The other players will be medical students. It was a breezy evening on Tuesday. Those who missed it will have a chance of one as lively on Friday next week.

The Sisters Vanbrugh (Violet and Irene) will appear at the Coliseum next week. Violet will be once more doing the sleep-walking scene from "Macbeth," which she introduced for the first time in variety at Stoll's Hippodrome, Bristol, last week. As the wife of the guilty Thane Mrs. Bourchier gives a performance of remarkable intensity. Irene Vanbrugh (Mrs. Dion Boucicault) will continue her delightful experiences as Mrs. Page—who is forty and a bittock—in "Rosalind," Barrie's pretty play.

Teddy Payne, who has finished his stay at the Gaiety after serving under the banner of George Edwardes for many years, is going on Monday next to the Palace Theatre, where he will be again associated with his old chum and fellow-comedian George Grossmith. A very clever and entertaining trio will be completed by Mabel Sealby, whose success in "A Balkan Princess" we remember so well. G.G., Teddy, and Mabel have the permission of George Edwardes to introduce some excerpts from "The Sunshine Girl," and we are to hear for the first time at the variety theatres those attractive numbers "Nuts" and "I'm boss of the show," originally a quartet. G.G. and Teddy will also introduce a new version of "The Two Obadiahs," which takes the memories of old-timers well back into the last century. The happily associated pair are not making their first appearance with Mr. Butt. They did a special turn on the occasion of Miss Emily Soldene's benefit matinée a few years since.

Mr. George Grossmith, by the way, has been paying a flying visit to Berlin and Paris, and has confided to a correspondent that he is at work on a new revue for the Alhambra, which will follow "Kill that Fly" when the popularity of that successful production is on the wane. The most sensational thing about this revue will be that there will be no rag-time in it. Gee Gee thinks that rag-time is played out. On the other hand, it is his deliberate opinion that the revue borrowed from the Continent, and especially from France, has come to stay in London, and that is why he is writing a new one. In the earlier stages of the revue as produced on this side of the Channel we used to borrow a Parisian author to collaborate with an English playwright. Mr. Stoll adopted this plan at the Coliseum when he arranged for Mr. Arthur Shirley to join up with M. Victor de Cottens, a practised hand.

A most interesting combination of the two chief Russian artistes at the Empire and the Coliseum in the persons of Mlle. Kyasht and Mr. Theodore Kosloff, took place on Tuesday evening at the Hyde Park Hotel, after a dinner, at which the guests included Lord Claude Hamilton, M.P., the Hon. W. Pember Reeves, the Earl of Orkney, Sir Francis Lowe, M.P., Sir William Bull, M.P., Mr. Norman Craig, K.C., M.P., Lord Blyth, the Hon. Sir Eric Barrington, and Mr. C. Birch Crisp, the now well-known financier, who arranged the Chinese loan. On a specially erected stage, Mlle. Kyasht and Mr. Theodore Kosloff danced together in Tchaikovsky's "L'Oiseau de Feu," a valse caprice, with music by Rubinstein, and a mazurka, with music by Veniavskin. Their success was unequivocal, and loud applause testified to the delight of the company.

The appearance of the world-famous self-liberator Houdini at the Finsbury Park Empire on Monday next will probably be the only opportunity patrons of that house will have for seeing him for a long time to come. Houdini's marvellous ingenuity will be shown in a really astounding exhibition. After being locked by members of the audience in a "water torture cell" of his own invention, the audience will see him liberate himself, but not before they have witnessed his ankles clamped and locked above in the centre of the massive cover, so that his head is downwards. Literally speaking, he is chained by the feet, upside-down, and immersed in a closed chamber of water. Houdini offers £200 to anyone who can prove that it is possible for him to obtain air in the upside-down position, from which he releases himself in this water-filled cell.

Miss Ethel Warwick, who is to produce a new piece at the Little Theatre in April, will return to the halls for a time on Monday week, when she will be seen in a sketch, called "Stolen Fruit," by Cyril Twyford. Miss Warwick, it will be remembered, played the heroine in a sensational drama at the Hippodrome a few years since.

Mr. Fred Kitchen's company, in "Bungle's Luck," will be the chief attraction at the Bedminster Hippodrome on Monday. There are sixty-three in the cast, and among the chief supporters of Mr. Kitchen are Miss Kate Forster, Miss Aggie Morris, Messrs. Victor Stevens (pantomime author and comedian), Charles Baldwin, John E. Coyle, John Osborne, Harry Lappo, and H. Piddock.

Will Oliver ("Spot") reaches his 61st anniversary to-morrow, when he will assuredly receive at Spot Lodge a sheaf of congratulations from a host of friends and well-wishers. William, which is our friend Oliver's Sunday name, seems to possess the secret of perpetual youth. As Emerson tells us, "He is not of counted age, meaning always to be young." Will is really an Irishman by birth and to this happy circumstance is due his sense of humour. To his long residence in Cockaigne, perhaps, he owes his unfailing cheeriness and geniality. It is many years since we saw Willie dance, but we understand he refuses to learn rag-time. He will, however, sing to-morrow, in accordance with an invariable birthday custom, that undying anthem of filial devotion, "Don't put my father's picture up for sale," the chorus of which used to shake the roof of the South London in the old days. Here's to you, Willie! Many happy returns!

Mr. Jack Green is producing, at the Grand Theatre of Varieties, Isleworth, on Monday, a [illegible] episode, entitled [illegible]orman H. Lee. The [illegible]ld, Jack Green, J. [illegible]rrington, Charles [illegible]ynn. The special

Mr. Charles A. Hurley has retired from the general-management of the Regent Theatre, Salford, and is about to open an office in Manchester as theatrical agent. He was presented on Saturday evening last with a purse of gold, subscribed by the directors, staff, and friends, with good wishes.

Mr. Alan D. Dunbar, lately resident-manager at the Empire, Chatham, succeeds Mr. Hurley as general-manager of the Regent Theatre, Salford, and the Opera House adjoining.

The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd., have this week taken over the Palace Theatre, Rochdale, and for the present are running variety and picture entertainments twice nightly. Mr. Norman M. Robinson has undertaken the dual management of the Palace Theatre and the Theatre Royal.

Mr. Sidney Slark, late manager of Olympia, Shoreditch, and Putney Hippodrome (London Theatres of Varieties, Ltd), has been appointed manager of Woolwich Hippodrome vice Mr. H. S. Perfect, who has resigned. Mr. Sid Slark, a life-long resident in Woolwich and highly respected therein, took over his new duties on Monday last, and was the recipient of hearty congratulations.

Mr. F. Dudman Bromwich, the newly-appointed manager of the Grand Theatre of Varieties, Hanley, in succession to Mr. Arthur Rand, is a gentleman of large theatrical knowledge. He is already exceedingly popular. The Grand is one of the largest theatres in the kingdom, with a holding capacity of 4,080.

Arthur Shirley's famous drama, "The Grip of Iron," which held a great provincial and suburban record in its day, is to be staged at the New Middlesex next week. It enjoyed a short run at the Princess's, and it was a money magnet at the old Standard, Shoreditch, and the Surrey. The Middlesex variety section includes Olga, Elgar and Eli Hudson, in their delightful musical entertainment; Vera Wootton, comedienne; and Briff, Braff and Broff, comedy acrobats

At a meeting of the Islington Charities Committee held on Tuesday evening at the Town Hall, Upper-street, Alderman G. S. Elliott, the Mayor, in the chair, it was announced by Councillor Harold Butcher, one of the hon. secretaries, that the consent of the management of the Oxford Music Hall had been obtained for a grand matinée to be held in aid of the Great Northern Central Hospital, Holloway-road. The date has not yet been fixed. It is expected that Royal patronage will be obtained. The proprietors of several of the Islington cinematograph theatres have also promised to give special matinées in aid of local charitable institutions, and under the auspices of the Islington Charities Committee.

Mlle. Irma Lorraine, whose success at the Rotherhithe Hippodrome this week is noticed in another column, has in preparation an entirely new act on quite an elaborate scale. Mlle. Lorraine proposes touring a stage of her own, which will be reversible, and one-half of which only will be visible to the audience at the time, scenery at the back hiding the other half. Whilst performing on one half the scenery will be prepared for the next half, so that there will be no curtain between the different scenes, and the performance will be a continuous one.

Mlle. Lorraine will present this act on the London Theatres of Varieties' tour later in the year, and it will comprise classical dancing, beautiful living pictures, and artistic statuary, the whole being woven into a story, most probably an old Roman story.

The curtain will be rung down for the last time on Mr. Francis Laidler's successful pantomime, "Cinderella," at the Prince's, Bradford, on Saturday evening, and until next Christmas Eve twice-nightly performances will be given at that house. Mr. Laidler is strongly of opinion that the people prefer a bright two hours' performance, particularly of drama, without intervals, instead of having to sit for three and a half hours to see plays long drawn out with three or four intervals of twelve or fifteen minutes each. This new departure was brightly inaugurated on Monday by Miss Florrie Forde, who, with her own twice-nightly pantomime, "The Babes in the Wood," has returned to the scene of her former pantomime triumphs at the Prince's Theatre for one week.

A correspondent writes from Monte Carlo: "On Wednesday I saw Fragson's show at the Palais des Beaux-Arts. The Anglo-French comedian sang eight French songs, one English number, and gave a recitation. There would be about £25 in the house." Eight out of every ten of the crowd at Monte Carlo are Germans.

Miss Jessie Millward has had some very flattering offers for her sketch, "In the Grey of the Dawn," produced last week with great success at the Chelsea. She is, however, re-engaged by the Syndicate management, and opens at the Metropolitan on Monday next.

Yesterday (Friday) evening Lord Windsor was announced to present the Lynch Cup at the Bedford Music Hall to the winning team in the football match between the Cobden Thursday and the St. Pancras Thursday clubs. There was promise of a big house to see the presentation made. Mr. Geo. Higgs, the manager, had the arrangements in hand.

That well-known firm of theatrical costumiers, Messrs. H. and M. Rayne, of 49, Charing Cross-road, and 115 to 119, Waterloo-road, are responsible for a number of the costumes for the "Ragtime Review," produced on Monday by Mr. Austen Hurgon at the New Cross Empire.

Miss Maude May Murray, who made her re-appearance in Glasgow on Monday last at the Savoy, simply captivated the house with her beautiful and graceful dancing. She makes her entrance in a wonderful dress of shimmering silver, and with an artistic silver background, forms a most exquisite picture.

The directors' report and balance-sheet of the Empire, Leicester-square, to be submitted to the shareholders at the ordinary general meeting to be held at that house on Friday next, discloses a very prosperous state of things. After allowing £12,678 15s. 3d. for depreciation, and after charging the sum of £6,427 4s. 4d. to alteration and repairs, and also £239 11s. 8d. for the redemption policy for the return of the capital at the expiration of the lease in the year 1958, the net profit is £16,984 18s. 8d. The balance brought forward from last account, viz., £23,826 5s. 2d., makes the total £40,811 3s. 10d. It is now proposed to pay a dividend in respect of the year 1912 of 3s. on each 15s.-paid share, and 2s. on each 10s.-paid share respectively, being at the rate of 20 per cent. per annum, absorbing £6,250, and to place to reserve account a further sum of £10,000, leaving to be carried forward to next account, £24,561 3s. 10d. Dividend will, if approved by the shareholders, be paid on Saturday, March 1, free of income tax. Mr. G. C. Wentworth-Fitzwilliam is the director retiring in accordance with the articles of association, and, being eligible, offers himself for re-election. The auditors, Messrs. W. B. Peat and Co., retire, and also offer themselves for re-election. The report is signed by Mr. Arthur Bridges, the new secretary.

Carter Livesey will play "An Amateur Anarchist" at the Hackney Empire next week in lieu of Chiswick to oblige Mr. Stoll.

On the conclusion last Saturday of the eight weeks' run of Mr. Alberts' pantomime, "Goody Two Shoes," Miss Maudie Francis, who has played the title-rôle with such conspicuous success, was presented with a pair of silver shoes by Mr. and Mrs. Jones, warm admirers of her talent.

Miss Cressie Leonard sails to-day (Saturday) from Southampton on a sixteen weeks' starring tour in South Africa, visiting all the principal cities.

"On the Pier," a musical comedy scena, is to be presented by Mr. Leslie Stiles at the London Pavilion on Monday. It is full of tuneful numbers, and gives Mr. Stiles scope for his imitations of G. P. Huntley, Lewis Waller, etc. A specially-engaged chorus of smart ladies will appear.

Mr. Matheson Lang and Miss Hutin Britton, supported by their own company, will open at the Palladium in a series of matinées on Monday next, Feb. 24, with "Westward Ho!" It is a play, charming, picturesque, and patriotic—a play dealing with the men who made England what she is—the mistress of the seas—a play full of the healthy life and fresh vigour of the spacious days of Queen Bess.

The play is written by the famous novelist, Miss Peggy Webling, and is based upon Kingsley's story. Mr. Matheson Lang himself and Miss Hutin Britton are supported by Mr. F. Percival Stevens, Mr. Halliwell Hobbes, Mr. Edward O'Neill, Mr. Harry Ashford, Mr. Clarence Blakiston, Mr. A. W. Tyrer, Mr. Sidney Vautier, Mr. Lewis Sidney, Mr. Donald Young, Mr. R. Scrope-Quentin, Mr. Basil N. Sydney, Mr. Arthur Seaton, Mr. David Hallam, Miss Dorothy Ripley, Miss Marion Lind, Miss Nona Wynne, Miss Ethel Harper, Miss Harriet Trench, Miss Marjorie Dane, and Miss Marjory Carpenter. Miss Hutin Britton plays the delightfully original part of Ayacanora, the half Spanish, half English girl in "Westward Ho!"

Miss Ellaline Terriss and Mr. Seymour Hicks sail to-day for New York on a short pleasure trip. They expect to be back in England by Easter, and have just settled a joint engagement with Mr. Oswald Stoll beginning in July. The autumn is to be devoted to a tour of the provinces with a revue.

We hear with much regret of the sad circumstances that surround the death of Mrs. Edwin Boyde, widow of the late Edwin Boyde, and daughter-in-law of Mr. J. W. Rowley, comedian. She was admitted to Lambeth Infirmary suffering from consumption, and passed away on Sunday last. Before her marriage she was Miss Alice Cooke, one of the finest circus riders who ever entered the ring, and a near relative of the famous Cookes, of Edinburgh. The deceased lady leaves a daughter.

On the authority of a correspondent, a comment appeared in the Saturday "Era" of Feb. 15, in our "Variety Gossip" page, concerning the behaviour of the Surrey audience at the previous Monday's matinée. It now appears that our comment in the par referred to was based on an exaggerated statement, and that "the actual facts of the matter," as set forth in a letter from Mr. S. Fortescue-Harrison, are that "during a portion of one act a certain section of the audience were a little noisy, but this is the only incident which occurred during the afternoon."

We feel and know that Mr. Harrison takes every possible care that artistes appearing on the Surrey stage are protected from annoyance or insult; and in confirmation of this the members of last week's company protest that none of them were in any way disturbed or annoyed on the occasion in question. There was plenty of applause and laughter for the many fine and capable turns in a most diversified and capitally arranged programme, which was contributed to by Fred Karno's "Mumming Birds" company, managed by Jack Royal; G. W. Hunter, the delightful raconteur; Hal Bert, who repeated his Elephant and Castle pantomime success; that fine actress Miss Gertrude Bibby; the quaint Goodfellow and Gregson; Raya and Regan; Virto, the versatile instrumentalist; Miss Edith Chandler, a charming young vocalist; Rudyer Bann; the Six Sailor Juveniles; and Louis T. Dalrymple.

That versatile instrumentalist, Virto, scored one of the most gratifying successes of his career at the Surrey last week. After his turn, lasting some sixteen minutes, he was called before the curtain, and had to make a speech.

There were animated scenes at the Birmingham Empire on Wednesday afternoon, when, by permission of Moss' Empires, Ltd., a matinée was given in aid of the Birmingham Military Veterans' Association. A distinguished company was present, including the Lord Mayor (Lieut.-Colonel E. Martineau) and the Lady Mayoress, Colonel D. P. Driscoll, commanding the Legion of Frontiersmen, and other officers. A capital programme, containing over forty items, had been arranged by Mr. W. H. Bebby, the manager, who afterwards entertained twenty-five of the veterans to tea at one of the cafés in the town.

Mr. Frank Travis, the popular ventriloquist, has had a great shock this week in the receipt of a cablegram from India announcing the death of his son, Frank Calvert, of Roze and Calvert—"Captain Kettle and his Charming Mate." The deceased artiste passed away in Bombay on Tuesday. He had had a very successful tour in Africa, and from there went to India. The trying climate of that country did not suit him, and he had an attack of neuritis. Then consumption of the bowels set in, and he sank rapidly. His wife is prostrate with grief, and as soon as she is well enough she will return to England. Before his departure from this country Mr. Frank Calvert appeared in the Empire revue, "Everybody's Doing It."

Cliff Berzac has returned to town, and at the Coliseum is evoking shouts of laughter through the behaviour of his mule, a most obstreperous cuss on four legs. The animal absolutely refuses to allow anybody on his back, and a good-tempered negro, with a decided sense of fun, meets with much contumely in a "knockabout" show in which the mere biped invariably comes off second best. There are excellent riders in Berzac's show, and a burlesque equestrian, whose performance raises peals of merriment among the kiddies, always so numerous at the afternoon performances. Berzac, in his "Riding Academy," sustains his high reputation for a clean and side-splitting show.

One of the most interesting items in the very admirable programme submitted to the St. Valentine vaudeville entertainment, arranged by Miss Floyd Ariston and Mrs. Albert Bradshaw, at the King's Hall, Covent Garden on Saturday evening last, was a new series of character impressions by Henriquette Maude. This lady's voice has such delightful timbre that it reached every corner of the hall, and at the close of her entertainment Miss Maude was repeatedly called before the curtain, and presented with a floral tribute of appreciation. Accompanying Miss Maude at the piano was Signor Behrent, the well-known pianist.

FEDERATION AND FUNDS.

M.H.A.R.A.

Tickets for the M.H.A.R.A. dinner, to be held on Sunday, March 9, at the Criterion Restaurant, are now on sale at the offices, 18, Charing Cross-road, W.C., price 6s. each. Mr. Joe Elvin will be supported in the chair by many prominent members of the professional fraternities and the Ladies' Guild.

The usual weekly meeting of the committee was held on Wednesday, the following members attending:—Messrs. Harry Gribben (in the chair), T. C. Callaghan, Harry Falls, Tom E. Conover, Edwin Barwick, and C. Douglas Stuart. Arrangements were made for new agencies at Perth and Cork, and Dr. Tyrrell, of Galashiels, was appointed an honorary medical officer. The weekly statement showed an increase of 63 new members, and receipts of £87 5s. 6d.

The Beneficent Order of Terriers.

The secretary desires to thank Terrier Dick Bell (Bucher Bros.) for the gift of a silver cigarette case.

Full particulars of the annual dinner to be held at Frascati's Restaurant, on Sunday, April 6, will be forwarded next week to all members of the Order. The dinner will be followed by a concert.

Applications for membership have been received (first notice) from Joseph Edwin Osgood and Hans Peter Christian Olsen; (second notice) Tom E. Dean and Leslie Harris. At the meeting on Sunday last Terrier Arthur Gallimore acted as W.I., Terrier Chas. Kasrac as W.D., and Terrie Billy Day as Y.B. A hearty welcome was extended to Terriers Ted E. Box, Frank Melvin, Fred Carr, Joe Archer, L. Houssein, Walter Wisper, and Jack Harris.

Music Hall Ladies' Guild.

Miss Melinda May (secretary of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild) desires, on behalf of the committee, to gratefully thank the following:—Mr. John Lawson, donation, 10s. 6d. (per Miss Lottie Albert); Mr. Cyrus Bell, donation, 5s.; Mr. Humphries, donation, 5s. (per Mr. Vernon Cowper); Mrs. Ernest Collins, useful box of clothing; and Miss Mary Neil, six coal and twelve bread tickets. Mrs. Chas. Coborn has also to be thanked for a prize given away at our fancy dress ball.

Miss Mary Neil and Miss Rose Bancroft have been elected committee members.

Friends of the charity are heartily welcome to tea and reception, held every Wednesday, four to five o'clock.

Music Hall Home.

The secretary acknowledges the receipt of £3 5s. 6d. from the purser of the R.M.S. Edinburgh Castle, being the amount allotted to the Music Hall Home from the proceeds of the concert on board, given by **Billy Hobbs, Marion Scott,** Joyce Vernon, Fred Elmo, and Athlone and Sinclair. The committee tender their grateful thanks to the above artistes.

The list of collectors and subscribers to Kitty Colyer's New Year's Appeal will shortly be published. Collectors who would like their names to appear in the first list are requested to return cards as soon as possible, with remittance.

Dennis Harvey (Harvey Boys) is suffering from appendicitis and was unable to appear at the Metropolitan on Monday.

Marie Santoi and company open on Monday at the New Cross Empire, after a most successful run of nine months in the provinces, with their renowned miniature musical comedy, "A Night in Japan." All managers and agents are invited to see the new dresses, scenery, etc., which are something worth seeing.

A new comedy sketch, by Ian Richardson, entitled "The Virtues o' Mrs. McTodd," will be produced on Monday next at the Camberwell Empire. The principal parts will be played by Mr. George Tawde (the original Rab) and Miss Eva McRoberts (the Teenie), in "Bunty Pulls the Strings," who will play the parts of Ginglin' Geordie and Mrs. McTodd respectively. Supporting them are Messrs. Almyr Vane, Phil Hartley, William Dunlop, and Arthur Boxall. Mr. Ian Richardson, who is the nephew of a well-known Scottish author and novelist, has several Scottish plays, including a three-act comedy, but "The Virtues o' Mrs. McTodd" is the first from his pen to be produced.

Miss Mildred Blanchard is among the latest victims of the burgling fraternity, her house in Green Lanes being visited on Tiesday, and about £40 worth of property taken. Miss Blanchard's quick perception was the means of making an exciting arrest, and, as a consequence, two men appeared at the North London Police Court the following day, charged with breaking into the house.

In giving evidence, Miss Blanchard stated that the previous afternoon she returned home with her husband (Dr. G. Weil), and found the drawing-room door open, which she had securely locked. Concluding that there were strangers in the house she communicated her fears to her husband, and both went to the front of the house and called for police assistance. At once the two prisoners dashed from the house and ran down the road, her husband giving chase. While she continued calling for the police she saw two other men not in custody emerge from the house, cut across the lawn, leap the garden fencing, and disappear. Shortly afterwards her husband returned with a policeman, who had the two prisoners in custody. Both of the men were in possession of parcels which were included in the list of the stolen property. Going over the house Mr. and Mrs. Weil found the whole place ransacked, locks and bolts torn off doors and drawers, and goods packed up ready for removal. Entry had been effected through a side door, while a window in the basement had been smashed. The prisoners, who pleaded not guilty, were sent to the Sessions for trial.

Holding the world's record for high run at 105 balls for pocket billiards, Mr. Fred N. Tallman is in this country from America, and opens on Monday, March 3, at the Oxford, where, by means of a cleverly-arranged mirror, the whole audience will be able to watch his manipulation. He will undertake to play one-handed 77 balls without a miss, and numerous other shots. Mr. Tallman is giving a private Press view one day next week.

Of the attractions which Mr. Alfred Butt booked during his recent visit to America he will present the second on Monday, when will appear for the first time in England a quintette of coloured singers who are incomparable throughout their own land in their rendering of the beautiful melodies of the South. These fine artistes, who were the sensation of the famous Riesenweber Cabaret in New York, will, at the Palace, give their performance in a setting that is being specially designed to create harmony in the colour scheme of both the singers and their surroundings. Their songs will range from the soft melodies of their race to the rhythmic tunes that come to us from old days on the Mississippi "levees."

ACTS, ARTISTES, AND AGENTS.

Under the style of Jack Goodson, Ltd., that popular agent's variety business has now been resumed in his new offices at 16, Green-street, Leicester-square. Full particulars concerning Mr. Goodson's activities will be announced in the advertisement pages in next "Wednesday's Era."

Goodfellow and Gregson are sailing per the R.M.S. Edinburgh Castle on Saturday next, the 22nd inst., to open on the Grand Theatres Circuit, South Africa. They are booked through Messrs. Will Collins and Co.

The Pirmani Troupe and Brull and Hemsley sailed last Saturday by R.M.S. Kinfauns Castle to fulfil engagements on the Africa's Amalgamated Circuit, and to-day Mr. Rufe Naylor will despatch Miss Cressie Leonard, Loates and Stockdale, and Jock Macpherson for the same tour.

Mr. Braff, of A. Braff, Ltd., returned from America on Tuesday. His trip was a business one. Needless to add, it was also a busy one.

Mr. G. Isenthal, the well-known producer and agent, has removed from his offices in Charing Cross-road, and is now to be found at 18, Green-street, Leicester-square, W.C.

On March 10 a well-known London variety agent joins forces with Daly's Agency, Pink-lane, Newcastle. Who can it be? say all inquirers. "We" know who it is; but we must ask you to wait and see for yourselves in our columns in their future announcements. With such a partnership of forces, and such a world-wide connection can this new combination book in, that practically their business will reach over the entire entertainment world. At present all we may say is: "Good luck and lots of it." Read our columns each week from now for further information.

Owing to unforeseen circumstances, Guy and Grahame, the two Johnnies, have been compelled to postpone the lengthy engagement in South Africa which had been arranged on their behalf However, the Stoll people and other leading managements have kindly given back several dates which were originally held over, in order to allow this popular pair to undertake their contemplated Colonial tour. Thanks to this and the energies of their agent, Mr. Harry Day, they are rapidly filling in the vacancies so unexpectedly caused by the altered arrangements.

This week Guy and Grahame are paying a return visit to the Bedford, where the novelty and general excellence of their act has won for them a host of friends. The success of "Cholly, M.P., and Dolly, M.P.," is but further evidence, if evidence indeed were required, of the ever-increasing popular appreciation of real originality and genuine refinement.

The Manchester Entertainments Bureau, 296, Oxford-road, has been converted into a limited company, supported by a syndicate of influential variety and picture proprietors, with Mr. H. G. Fitzgibbon as managing-director and Mr. G. Edward Hall as general-manager and secretary.

Mr. Richard Cass's find, Fred Hazell and Will, open on Monday next at the Canterbury prior to starting on a long provincial tour. Their show, which was so phenomenally successful last week at the Surrey, is a new departure in mimicry. Mr. Cass is to be complimented on being the pioneer of two such clever performers, for whom a prosperous future seems assured.

Miss Margaret Moffat, who was last seen in London with Mr. Yorke Stephens in "Just Like a Woman," by Sewell Collins, will play a sketch, specially written for her by the same author, at the Manchester Hippodrome on Monday. It is called "The Scrub Lady."

Mme. Slapoffski, the Australian prima donna, who achieved such a brilliant success with Mr. Lyell-Tayler's municipal orchestral concert in "Cavalleria Rusticana," at the Dome, Brighton, last week, has been re-engaged to sing in "Tannhäuser," "Lohengrin," and "Flying Dutchman," with the same organisation next week.

Miss Rene Ralph has been re-engaged by Mr Wentworth Croke to play "Dick Whittington" at the Elephant and Castle Theatre next Christmas, owing to the success she made there last Christmas as Jack in "Jack and the Beanstalk." Miss Ralph commences a short provincial tour on March 3 at the Palace, Leicester, and will return to town on Easter Monday at Shepherd's Bush.

G. H. Elliott and Miss Emilie Hayes, fresh from their triumphs in "Cinderella" pantomime at the Wimbledon Theatre, are this week meeting with enormous success in Reading at the County Theatre, where they are singing the popular duet, "On moonlight bay," which was one of the greatest hits of Wimbledon pantomime. Nightly they have been compelled to sing three songs each in both houses, and on Wednesday night Miss Hayes was the recipient of a beautiful floral tribute from Mrs. Milton Bode. It is indeed delightful to work for such a kind and friendly management.

The third annual trial matinée promoted by the manager (Mr. G. E. Prance) and assistant-manager (Mr. Wm. Baldwin) of the Hippodrome, Devonport, on Saturday last, was a huge success, financially and otherwise, the audience demonstrating their approval or otherwise of the respective turns in no uncertain way. Eventually the Hippodrome Trophy Cup, which, together with a week's engagement, formed the first prize, was won by Messrs. Cartwright and O'Farrell. Other prizes, presented by local tradesmen, were awarded as follows:—Second, Coburg Sisters (writing-case); third, George Whittle (suit-case); fourth, Miss G. Lawrence; fifth, Miss Hambly; and sixth Sergeant Whitelaw.

CANNING TOWN PALACE.

Mr. Jack Arnold and his London company appear at the Canning Town Imperial Palace this week in an entirely new and up-to-date version of "Aladdin and His Wonderful Lamp," a pantomime which is receiving due patronage from the neighbouring public. The piece is well staged, and abounds with fun and merriment. As Aladdin, Gertie Gordon is a most chic and winning principal boy, and sings her songs in pleasing style. Mamie May makes a pretty Princess Balroulbadour. Mr. Bobbie Graham, who takes the character of Abanazar, is responsible for a deal of merriment, and Mr. Dan Dunville a quaint Widow Twankey. Other principal parts are well sustained by Mr. Bert Grundon, who makes a stately Emperor of China; Mr. George Thomas, as the Grand Vizier; Miss Maudie Coates as the Genii of the Lamp; Miss Maud Harnie as Pekoe; Miss Daisy Forrester as Soshi; Miss Scott Glenn as Genii of the Ring; and the Western Bros. as Chinese policemen. Specialities are introduced by Lonzo Brown, a real coon vocalist and a sand dancer of no mean order; the Sisters Rogers, vocalists and acrobatic dancers; and the Western Brothers, who, besides being song and patter comedians, are clever exponents of the art of lightning dancing.

ASTRONOMY AND MUSIC.

The astronomer who discovers stars deserves, and always receives, full recognition on the part of the learned societies; and hence it is not surprising that a musical astronomer, who not alone discovers but makes stars, should gain the kudos that merit ought always bring, and Mr. Bert Feldman has got all that; his name and his fame have been trumpeted over continents, and financially his musical publications have been equivalent to gold mines. Every artiste is short-sighted who does not follow the advice of Mr. Feldman—it is the height of folly to ignore such a golden opinion as his—and a glance at what he has done in the short space of a year should be a most potent factor in inducing any artiste to get without any further delay the musical King interested in his or her act. What has Mr. Feldman done in the period referred to? He saw that syncopated music was one of the things that would liven up our people in the matter of theatrical fare. His optimism in this direction became infectious in a short time, with the result that artistes saw the wisdom of rallying round Feldman and featuring his publications, while managers who wished to be at all in the running were obliged to see that Rag-time (which means Feldman) formed a not inconsiderable part of the programmes which they nightly submitted to the public. Patronising Feldman meant coining money and gaining "star" positions in programmes for artistes, and at the same time the theatre bank balances grew abnormally plethoric.

But this is not a tithe of what the Emperor of Arthur-street has done in the promotion of matters theatrical. If he did nothing else but prove true his prognostication—that the 1912 pantomime season would have to be redolent of syncopation to be successful—a great deal would have been accomplished in justification of the seer's cocksureness; but not alone did Mr. Feldman prove a true prophet—he in addition swept all before him in the pantomime world with Arthur-street publications, and every production in which Feldman had his finger in the pie—and that was in all of them—turned out to be the hugest of big successes. Hence, we may well ask why any artistes should still hesitate to pin their faith to the Feldman gospel of music after the dazzling brilliance of the past year's operations. Surely, there will not be such an one found in the length and breadth of these countries?

Every singing act in the metropolis and the provinces is featuring Feldman's songs. And why? people may ask. Firstly, because their striking originality demands such recognition; and, secondly, because the publicity which the Arthur-street firm can give to performers—an invaluable adjunct to their success—is now a recognised tradition of the business. Those who have wares to dispose of soon feel the advantage of publicity; and so it is with artistes who have got to get the most money it is possible to obtain for the public presentation of the talents with which they are endowed. Publicity is a vital essential to this obtainment, and Feldman takes good care that artistes who patronise Arthur-street shall not have their lihgt obscured under a bushel.

The house of Feldman has had many memorable events in its history, and the most recent to chronicle is one of great importance—namely, the successful launching this week of their latest and greatest ballad, "When I lost you," which is the life story and from the pen of the greatest living song writer, Irving Berlin—the man whose melodies have brought fame and fortune to thousands of performers—the man whose songs are exclusively published in this country by the house of Feldman, and it is common property what their result has been on this side. To refer to this masterpiece, "When I lost you"—which Mr. Bert Feldman affirms is going to take the country electrically—ere many days are over fifty of our foremost ballad vocalists will be singing it. The song got its initial canter this week at the Holborn by Miss Ella Shields, and her success was an instantaneous triumph for both song and singer. Miss Shields held her audience spellbound, and the applause she received was magical. The two geniuses, Irving Berlin and Bert Feldman, have been fortunate in having an exponent of Miss Shields' ability to exploit this wonderful ballad. It was introduced simultaneously at the Euston by Miss Barbara Babington. Fresh from her Irish pantomime triumphs, she was grand in both voice and appearance, and her rendition of the number evoked most enthusiastic applause. But all has not yet been told. At Edinburgh on Monday night Talbot and Pearce produced "When I lost you," and there was a perfect riot of applause over its presentation. Hence in "When I lost you" the country is assured of its ballad for the coming season, and, in the words of Mr. Bert Feldman, his firm have a "one-night-made success."

"It is always hard to part with old friends," says Mr. Bert Feldman, "but whilst 'Alexander's rag-time band,' 'Everybody's doing it,' 'Oh, you beautiful doll!' 'The rag-time violin,' and a whole host of our other season's wonderful songs will always have a corner in my heart, my thoughts must soon turn to new tunes that the public are going to demand in the months to come." The Arthur-street firm, whose motto is "Forge ahead," are stocked with novelties that are destined to play a prominent part in the amusement world during the coming season. The Arthur-street rehearsal rooms are crowded daily, and one realises the popularity of the firm when one witnesses the mingling of stars and struggling aspirants, all bent on obtaining the latest output of this mammoth music emporium. We learn that at the moment Mr. Bert Feldman is strongly tipping "On the Mississippi" and another of Irving Berlin's, "When the midnight choo choo leaves for Alabama."

To-night sees the close of one of the season's most successful pantomimes, "The House that Jack Built," at the Theatre Royal, Glasgow, the production of Mr. Fred W. Wyndham. This gentleman must be given the credit for having pinned his faith to the doctrine of the Rag-time King, and he had also the courage to throw himself whole-heartedly into the rag-time publications of the Arthur-street firm. It is interesting to record that Mr. Wyndham's production closed with no fewer than ten of Feldman's publications—viz., "Alexander's rag-time band," "Everybody's doing it," "I want to be in Dixie," "The Gaby glide," "Oh, you beautiful doll!" "The rag-time violin," "Moon mad," "In the garden of my heart," "Who were you with last night?" and "Take me back to the garden of love," another striking instance of the staying power of Feldman's masterpieces. And all he publishes are masterpieces, without exception, as so many theatre managers and artistes can attest, and, if necessary, make affidavit thereof.

The closing scene of a crowded house must have been gratifying to London's West End principal boy, Miss Daisy James, whose name will long live in the annals of the historical Lyceum Theatre. Recall upon recall greeted her every exit; the huge floral offerings attested to her great popularity; and the way her choruses were re-demanded was sufficient proof of the appreciation of her selections—"Who were you with last night?" "That mysterious rag," and "I want to be in Dixie." The latter Miss James has been singing at the Holborn and Palladium with enormous success during the week. It is interesting to note that, so delighted and successful has Miss James been with Messrs. B. Feldman and Co.'s songs in pantomime, she will exclusively feature this firm's songs during the c and has in active study several of street firm's latest and brightest.

Fred Barnes, who was the first t Feldman's rag-time triumphs in pa Glasgow this season, will produce several new Feldman coming sensati ing the gem of a lifetime, "When also "The rag-time soldier man" the midnight choo choo leaves for Al Fred Barnes is very optimistic and his new Feldman répertoire, and h everybody's good wishes for his contin

Another record has to be put to th Miss Molly McCarthy, who has this duced Feldman's great domestic ball you were sweet sixteen"; and if the s ports to hand are maintained, this ve rising young star has a song that ere m elapse we shall have ringing through th Miss McCarthy, whose rapid strides m caused quite a flutter in managerial circle booked up at all the principal halls th the three kingdoms, and has had many tial and tempting offers to play both boy and girl in next year's pantomime McCarthy has loyally supported the Art publications, and attributes her phen in the profession to the advice she to her songs from Mr. Bert Feldman, c the astute assistance of her pantomim Mr. Fred J. Elliston.

The vitality of rag-time is exempli American Rag-time Octette, whose wherever they happen to be performin in warmth on each occasion. Enthusia are the rule at the Hackney Empire an Palace this week at the close of the artistic act. It goes without saying th repertoire consists largely of Feldman publi which they have been using with enormo cess. "The ghost of the violin" and "Th time jockey" proved tremendous hits, "Everybody's doing it" is specially reques every performance by the audience. The O have this week included Messrs. Feldman's masterpiece, "When the midnight choo leaves for Alabam'," which created a veri furore. The personal work of Mr. Peter Ler in connection with the above numbers des special mention.

The inimitable Jen Latona is duplicating vious triumphs at the Leicester Palace this with Messrs. Feldman's popular songs, "I to be in Dixie," "Rum tum tiddle," and "B if the fellows can do without girls." Miss Lat bright and cheery presence, coupled with artistic expositions, win the unqualified app of her hearers.

A clever and polished comedian, in the pe of Harry Marlow, is this week charmin quenters of the Pavilion, Newcastle-on-Tyne. ingenious creation, "The Insurance Act, comedy song written and composed by hims "making good" in an unmistakable m: This very excellent number is published by M Feldman and Co.

"THE RAG-TIME REVUE."

FROM THE COTTON FIELDS TO NEW Y

The latest production of Austen Hu showing the evolution of rag-time fron cotton fields before the war to the prese craze, met with a very gratifying receptio its initial performance at New Cross on Mon evening. Opening with a scene depicting an plantation, some thirty well-balanced v bring us back to the days of yore by choru such old favourites as "My old Kentucky hor "Dixie," "Poor old Joe," and "The Swa River." In this scene, Hustlin' Joe (assisted the chorus) opens the solo numbers with "T rag-time goblin man," and this is followed Sadie and Caroline in their song and dan "Dixieland."

Scene II. shows us Hustlin' Joe, the lazy nigg of the plantation, on his road to New York Cit a short scene with plenty of comedy busines which is noteworthy for the capital working Black Salome by Joe and Salome. Mr. Dere Hudson and Miss Fern Andrée, in a well-writte double number, "Row, row, row," fill Scene II on the Mississippi River.

Undoubtedly the climax is reached with Scene IV., a setting of a New York cabaret Here rag-time rages fast and furious, some very pretty solo numbers, including "The Brinkley bathing girl," "My baby," and "The rag-time soldier man" giving plenty of scope for leading members of the company. Special mention must also be made of the capital violin selections of Mr. Kenneth Darrell.

"The Gaby Glide," as depicted by Mr. Derek Hudson and Miss Fern Andrée, together with "Everybody's two-step now," fairly brought the house down at the fall of the curtain. The whole show is lavishly mounted and beautifully dressed, the limelight effects materially adding to the attractiveness of the production. Too much praise cannot be bestowed on Miss Fern Andrée and Mr. W. C. Strong, the former giving a charming impersonation of Sadie, and the latter as Hustlin' Joe supplying a perfect reading of the nigger. The musical arrangements are in the safe hands of Mr. B. J. Paterson, who works hard and well to make the revue the success it certainly is.

VARIETY AT T.R., EDINBURGH.

WALTER DE FRECE TO TRY AGAIN.

Mr. Walter de Frece, who a year or two ago took over the Theatre Royal, Edinburgh, is again to try his luck this year, and will open the house as a vaudeville one in March. Of course, the usual prophets are preaching their gospels—of hope or despair, as the mind is—but personally (writes our Edinburgh correspondent), I believe that Mr. de Frece will on this occasion find the soil better tilled for his harvest.

No one can deny that there are not enough houses of entertainment in the city, but surely there ought to be room for more than one variety house. The Royal's situation, some assert, is against it, yet it is surrounded by people who attend the halls, and it is also but a minute or two from the leading railway station. Mr. de Frece's ventures on the last occasion had difficulties, which, I am convinced, are removed now, and he will have in Mr. Whitehead as manager a great "aid to fortune," as it were.

John Lawson reproduced "Humanity" at the Surrey on Monday, and received a most enthusiastic reception from a crowded house, the sketch proving as popular and thrilling as of yore. Mr. Lawson assumes his original character of Silvani, playing with intense feeling and earnestness the part of the deeply wronged and despised Jew. The remainder of the cast were not mentioned on the programme, but the artiste who represented the would-be betrayer is deserving of special mention for his interpretation of a difficult character, and the lady is to be highly commended for her performance of Mrs. Silvani. Captain Grey also received capable treatment. The fight, during which the entire apartment is demolished, is watched with breathless interest by the audience, who, at the final fall of the curtain, allow their pent-up feelings to burst forth in thunders of applause.

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FELDMAN'S GRAND PANTOMIME SELECTION

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IGRESS" AT TOTTENHAM.

playlet, by Cecil Howard Turner, with by Christopher Wilson, Produced (by osina Filippi) at the Tottenham Palace day, Feb. 17.

.....Miss Ella Erskine
.....Miss Rita Denison
.....Mr. Noel Phelps

se little drama, dealing with elemental reed, and revenge, is "The Tigress," ainly grips the imagination and holds Grand Guignol flavour, its warmth of l its atmosphere. Tottenham evidently whole-heartedly on Monday.

Spanish girl, tired of humdrum life in th her mother and sister, after her death has left the family impoverished, away to Barcelona and seduced by a scoundrel, who fires her imagination as of fame and wealth to be achieved as . After getting her a chorus engage- abandons her, and she finally becomes and dancer at a low cabaret, the resort worst characters in Barcelona. Her fiery tamable spirit gains her the title of igress" among the frequenters of the den,

rise of the curtain we find her sitting over the cabaret in a softer mood, dis- h her position, and thinking only of , who has written to say that her little ad, and that she proposes selling up ome in Seville and coming to Barce- d her errant daughter.

n old hag with no thought above ows her a newspaper containing the the finding of the body of an old woman been murdered by cutting the throat, offer of a reward of a thousand pesetas capture of the suspect, a butcher named Alvarez, who may be identified by a broad n the left arm, the result of a chopper cut. ntly a drunken and bestial wretch comes om the cabaret for the purposes of a flirta- with "The Tigress," and after displaying a ity of gold and ordering wine, secures him- from interruption by locking the door and ing the key in his pocket.

hen the strains of music are heard below and tries to make it a pretext for leaving him, ompels her to sing and dance to him. She s a song full of terrible significance, telling he death that lies within the embrace of the s, but he sees little meaning in it for him, continues drinking and toasting her until alf falls into a drunken sleep.

la urges him to lie down, but before doing e produces a woman's wedding ring, with h he taunts Lola, and a collection of trin- and jewellery. After placing these on a le, he draws a revolver, which the Tigress, h sudden fierceness, orders him to put down, murderous-looking knife, which he lovingly s and addresses as his "best friend." His viour becomes so threatening that Lola re- trates with him, and he goes off into a ken doze muttering to himself. Lola catches word "butcher." and, suddenly recollecting urder, draws up the sleeve of the sleeping and reveals the tell-tale scar, which confirms uspicion that she is locked in with a mur-

She makes signs of distress, which bring ld hag to the door, who, in delight at the ect of securing the reward, tells Lola to while she goes for the police.

aiting for their arrival, the Tigress paces the n like a caged animal, and when the sleeping ain shows signs of waking, caresses him and ns snatches of songs to him to lull him again slumber. Having succeeded, she approaches table, where the murderer has placed his ill- ten gains, and, suddenly recognising the ellery as her mother's, gives a series of pierc- g shrieks, which bring the criminal to his feet en she charges him with the murder of her other. He tries to brazen it out, terrified by e appalling fierceness of the Tigress, but on aring the noise of tramping on the stairs, ealises that he is trapped, and seizes his mur- erous knife to cut her throat as he cut her nother's. Lola, however, quickly snatches up he revolver, which he had forgotten in his in- oxication, and shoots him, and the curtain falls n a picture of the infuriated Tigress standing over the writhing body of her mother's murderer to the accompaniment of music and shouting from the cabaret below.

Miss Rosina Filippi "produced" the sketch with the greatest possible effect, and Christopher Wilson's music for song and dance has all the tone-colouring and dramatic impressiveness that are necessary, the score being most effective.

Miss Ella Erskine as Lola (the Tigress) looks exceedingly handsome, and so picturesquely Spanish that she might have been born in Barcelona. She achieves a notable triumph, her acting at times being most intense. Her dancing, too, is particularly graceful. Miss Rita Denison as Marta essays an unsympathetic part with considerable success, whilst the acting of Mr. Noel Phelps as Pedro is most forceful, his fall at the finish being one of the most wonderful we have ever witnessed. It certainly astounded both houses on Monday night by its remarkable realism. There is no doubt that this well-mounted produced, and excellently acted sketch has a successful future before it.

HUGH D. McINTOSH'S ENTERPRISE.

The name of Hugh D. McIntosh has come to be associated with big deals. That is why he has been re-christened Huge Deal McIntosh in Australia. A few months ago in a few hours he completed the purchase of one of the finest vaudeville circuits in the world—the Harry Rickards' Australasian Circuit. For a time he devoted himself jointly to building up and increasing the profits of the circuit, and at the same time extending and improving his big boxing business, which centred round the Stadium. He found that vaudeville demanded all his time and energy, and one morning he decided to sell the Stadium. This deal also was completed in an hour or two. At half-past 12 o'clock on Dec. 24, Hugh D. McIntosh found himself no longer the proprietor of the Stadium. It had been sold for £30,000 to Mr. Snowy Baker, with all the agreements, contracts, and contingencies relating to the business. Mr. Reginald L. Baker, usually called "Snowy," is a well-known athlete, footballer, swimmer, champion amateur boxer, and physical culturist, whose name in sport in Australia stands second only to that of Hugh D. McIntosh. Mr. McIntosh has relinquished his connection with boxing with a good deal of regret, after the years of energy and business acumen which he has devoted to it. In making the sacrifice he considers that Mr. "Snowy" Baker has exceptional attributes. He has a thorough knowledge of boxing, and is a young man with a clean reputation, who can be relied upon to live up to the Stadium tradition of "a fair field and favour to none."

Mr. McIntosh will go out of the game regretted by every ringsider, but he will always be remembered as the man who gave his patrons the best, and who held the position of the world's greatest boxing promoter.

Clyo and Rochelle have returned to England after five years' absence in the U.S.A. and Canada, having played for the U.B.O. and under the management of W. S. Cleveland for 137 weeks.

ZONA VEVEY AT FINSBURY PARK.

A DELIGHTFUL VOCAL INTERLUDE.

Zona Vevey is appearing at the Finsbury Park Empire this week, supported by Max Erard at the piano. Miss Vevey is a great favourite in Finsbury Park, and this is her third visit to this house. Her first number is a delightfully pretty little ballad entitled, "I do love that shepherd boy of mine." The refrain is rendered doubly effective by the introduction of an attractive oboe solo. A second song, "Tell me, pretty little Cupid," is sung in "boy's" costume. This number, which is fully as dainty as its predecessor, was very loudly applauded on Monday evening. Mr. Max Erard, who writes and composes all Miss Vevey's songs, is to be congratulated upon his workmanship, as he is also upon his piano playing. Between the songs he plays some attractive selections of his own arrangement upon the piano with notable effect and success. A couple of old and well-known Welsh melodies in particular are strikingly arranged and performed. Mr. Erard's superior execution receives abundant and well-merited applause. Zona Vevey concludes her artistic turn with an amusing number, "The piper or the drummer?" which rounds off her performance effectively, leaving an appreciative audience calling for more.

PIONEERS OF RAG-TIME.

The Two Bobs (Bob Alden and Bob Adams) pay their first visit (excepting the charity matinée, when they kindly gave their services) and meet with huge success. These pioneers of the ragtime craze are now exploiting as characteristic a specimen of syncopated melody as has ever been imported from the U.S.A. Yet it was written and composed this side of the Atlantic, and, we venture to predict, will enjoy much popularity on both sides. Other numbers that the Two Bobs are working include, "Hallo, London town," "The ragtime dinner-time band," and "Susannah! play some ragtime on pianner." But their best and most successful effort is the number mentioned above—"Dickey bird," by Lawrence Wright. This is their concluding item, and they could not obtain anything better if it is applause they wish for.

A CLEVER VENTRILOQUIST.

Tom Edwards, who may truthfully be described as one of the finest ventriloquists in England, is now presenting a new scena entitled, "Ventriloquial Bloodless Surgery," which is uproariously funny. This is a genuinely humorous contribution simply teeming with subtle little jests, most of which everybody roars at. The act concludes with a fine ventriloquial impersonation of Mr. Albert Chevalier as "a fallen star"—a really excellent piece of work.

Other turns include Harry Webber, a capital Hebrew impersonator; Artie Hall, in ragtime songs; Lane and Dale, comedians and trick cyclists; G. W. Hunter, comedian; the bioscope; and a troupe of lady acrobats.

"THE LOST SHEEP."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—As the London Press, with the exception of the journals strictly devoted to stage topics, did not witness nor review my little piece, "The Lost Sheep," at the London Pavilion last week, will you allow me to notice a coincidence in respect of the production to which my attention has been drawn?

On the same evening as that on which "The Lost Sheep" was first presented at the Pavilion by Mr. Ben Nathan, in conjunction with Messrs. Greet and Engelbach, another Scottish sketch, entitled "The Elder of the Kirk," was produced at the Middlesex by Mr. Neil Kenyon.

The plot of "The Lost Sheep" concerns a kirk elder and a gipsy girl, who meets and flirts with the minister. He falls an easy victim to her charms, to the great consternation of the kirk elder, who endeavours to save his minister in this predicament. All is finally set right when it is discovered that, though this was unknown to the minister, the girl is in reality his son's wife, and the gipsy gets the minister out of all trouble by declaring that he knew this all the time.

The plot of "The Elder of the Kirk" is given in the Press as follows: "The elder's son has wedded a Scottish dancer, who meets the father—unaware that she has married his son. They quickly become good friends. The elder is observed through the window by the son, who reproaches his father for his levity, and threatens to expose him to the neighbours. The elder begs him not to do this. Finally all misunderstandings are cleared up, and when it is explained that the young lassie is Tom's wife, the elder declares that he knew it all the time."

The London Press not having seen my piece at the Pavilion, I think it necessary to at once disclaim all previous knowledge of the above-mentioned sketch up to and until Saturday last, when the account of its plot appeared.

"The Lost Sheep" I based many months ago upon my own little book, "The Elder MacGregor," which was published a number of years ago, and which contains all the characters in my little play.—Yours faithfully,

CHARLES HANNAN.

London, Feb. 17, 1913.

"THE TORCH."

Comedy Sketch, by Harold Wolfgang, Produced at the Bedford, Feb. 15.

Colonel Rochester .....Mr. Tom E. Conover
Captain Bourne .....Mr. Harold Wolfgang
Sergt. Knutt .....Mr. J. Stevenson
The Torch .....Miss Millie Wolfgang

Mr. Wolfgang's sketch, which he produced on Monday last, has an element of novelty in it, for it is extremely amusing, and also dramatic. Colonel Rochester, a peppery retired Colonel, who has been chief of police in Burmah, has taken a bungalow, into which he has just moved, and is alone there. His friend and neighbour, Captain Bourne, comes in for a chat, and tells him of his being burgled by a swell crackswoman known as the Torch, because she often adds fire to her deeds. Rochester makes light of the idea, and says he would like to meet the lady. His wish is soon granted, for he finds a burglar, whom he holds up, and to his surprise finds it is the Torch. She pleads to be set free, but the Colonel 'phones for the police. Sergeant Knutt arrives, and the Torch turns the tables cleverly by accusing the Colonel of being the burglar. The sergeant handcuffs him, and ties him to a chair. Then the sergeant proves to be a confederate, and the two decamp with all valuables, leaving the Colonel in a fine state of frenzy. From this brief outline the possibilities of the sketch may be imagined, and the smart dialogue causes endless laughter, and Mr. Tom E. Conover was capital as the old Colonel, playing the part in just the right spirit. Miss Wolfgang is admirable as the Torch, and Mr. Wolfgang gives a neat sketch of Captain Bourne, while Mr. J. Stevenson was in fine form as Sergeant Knutt. The sketch had a hearty reception, and should be heard of again.

In addition, there are many excellent variety turns. Miss May Beatty is appearing and scoring a big hit, and Guy and Grahame, the two Johnnies, are going big, as usual. Bert Symes, the singing ploughboy, has a fine voice; and the musical turn of the Doring Trio is very acceptable. Cromo and Hamilton also make a hit in "The Lady and the Flunkey."

"MUM'S THE WORD."

By Edward Marris, described as a Non-stop Laugh in Three Scenes, Produced at the Palace, Maidstone, on Monday, Feb. 17.

Jim Stent ..... Mr. Fred Camplin
James Dickens ..... Mr. Walter Brodie
Mrs. Dickens ..... Miss Grace Lester
Iris Dickens ..... Miss Vera Vardon
Mrs. Stent ..... Miss Gwen Clifford
The Major ..... Mr. H. P. Owen
Archie ..... Mr. G. Cariello
Hon. Percy Cranberry .... Mr. Hubert Purser
Todd ..... Mr. Percy Cullane
The Tough ..... Mr. Malcolm V. Malcolm
The Inspector ..... Mr. Arthur Foster
The Breach of Promise Girl..Miss Poppy Dale
The Deputation .. Mr. Hugh Miller, Mr. Percy Wright, Mr. Fredk. Gibbins, Mr. John Dossiter, Mr. Malcolm V. Malcolm

In "Mum's the Word," Edward Marris's new production at the Palace, Maidstone, the author claims that it is a non-stop laugh in three scenes. This probably describes this act in the fewest possible words, as for upwards of forty minutes the large house was kept rocking with laughter. "Mum's the Word" is a new title for an abridged version of Mr. Marris's successful farcical comedy, "That Chauffeur Chap." Very few farcical comedies bear boiling down, but in this instance a screamingly funny and palatable version has been arrived at.

Edward Marris's farcical frolic, in three scenes, was given its first production at the Palace, Maidstone, on Monday night, before a crowded and appreciative audience. The first scene is in the drawing-room of Mr. Dickens, a solicitor, who has successfully defended a case of alleged gambling brought against a Bohemian club, the members of which are inviting him to join them at a supper party. He refuses, as "his wife would not consent," and the fun arises out of his double—a taxi driver—who is persuaded to take his place at home in his absence. The solicitor first picks a quarrel with his wife and vows he will not speak to her for twelve hours. He then sneaks off to the supper party, and the taxi driver is left to face the consequences, having been warned that "mum's the word." As can be imagined, this gives rise to some amusing complications, especially when he is told that he has been adopted as a Parliamentary candidate, and that a deputation is coming to wait on him. This proves the last straw—he bolts.

The second scene is outside a police station, and the elusive taxi driver is seen going into a public-house to get clear of his pursuers. No sooner is he safely inside than the wife of the man he is impersonating—and also his real wife, who has been watching his goings-on—demand of a policeman standing by if he has seen him. Bobby replies that he has not. Eventually the real wife is arrested for creating a breach of the peace and "the other" goes off to avoid further disturbance. The coast being clear, the taxi driver comes from the public-house much the worse for liquor, and is arrested and taken to the police station.

In the third act, the scene being in the solicitor's office the next morning, the real Mr. Dickens comes back from his party, and the taxi driver walks in announcing that he is on bail, and relates his experiences. An inspector of police now enters, and the impostor having left the room, he drags the unfortunate solicitor off to answer a charge of drunkenness. This leaves the impersonator once again master of the situation, and the climax is reached when he has to interview a number of the solicitor's clients, including a girl who wants to bring a breach of promise action against her erstwhile lover. Just as this is over the deputation arrives to interview their future member! When he is half-way through a very unparliamentary oration, the real Mr. Dickens reappears, together with the respective wives, &c. Explanations follow, and all ends well.

The particular charm about this sketch is the well-balanced cast, every part (and there are sixteen of them) being played in a perfect and highly finished manner.

In Fred Camplin, a new comedian, Mr. Marris has undoubtedly a find. His method is quaint and original, and we shall look forward to seeing this gentleman holding premier honours in the sketch world ere many months are passed.

In the part of the taxi-driver he has plenty of scope for inventive humour, and he never misses a chances, especially in the interviewing of clients and deputation, the house being kept in roars of laughter all the while he is on the stage. Mr. Walter Brodie does good work as James Dickens, the solicitor, and Miss Grace Lester is capital as Mrs. Dickens. The rest of the company work well, and this very amusing sketch should prove a decided winner.

A MUCH-USED NAME.

The recent death of poor Barney Stuart has brought to mind the remarkable number of members of the profession who bear the name so closely associated with the history of this country. We can recall no less than nine without effort. There is Otho Stuart, the actor-manager; there is Leslie Stuart, the famous composer; there is Cosmo Stuart, the actor-dramatist; and there is C. Douglas Stuart, the secretary of the Music Hall Artistes' Railway Association. Also one remembers Tom Stuart, the brother of the late comedian, Cora Stuart, Winifred Stuart, Kathleen Stuart, and Mary Stuart, all popular performers. And no doubt there are others.

Many of our readers will learn with regret that Mr. Whimsical Walker has been lying seriously ill in the hospital at Seattle. He is a member of Mr. Fred Karno's company, "The Wow-wows," at present doing an extended tour through Canada and the States. The latest news of the condition of the invalid is that he is now progressing favourably and hopes to be able to travel in a few weeks' time.

"HER LADYSHIP."

A Comedy Sketch, in One Scene, Presented by Mr. R. G. Hunter and Written by Harry Grattan, Produced for the First Time in London at the Wood Green Empire, on Monday, Feb. 17.

Mrs. Mary Desborough..Miss Marie Studholme
Arthur Desborough ..... Mr. Walter Pearce
Mr. Billbury ..... Mr. Cecil Burt
Maid ..... Miss Tiny Grattan

If audiences at Wood Green Empire should be just the least bit disappointed at not seeing that popular musical comedy idol, Miss Marie Studholme, in her usual rôles of singer, dancer, and actress, they will be quickly coaxed into good humour by her capital and humorous rendering of the part of Mrs. Mary Desborough in Harry Grattan's sketch, "Her Ladyship," produced at Mr. Stoll's North London house on Monday. The story is hardly new, for it relates to the usual rich uncle and poor nephew, whose wife borrows from the monied relative because her husband is too proud to do so, though badly in need of cash. The author, however, has treated the subject with much smartness, and the funny situations he has devised are cleverly played. The scene in which Miss Studholme impersonates a Marchioness makes one regret that so good an actress of legitimate comedy should have restricted her evident ability to the frivolities of musical plays. The character of Mr. Billbury (a name abhorred by the Marchioness, who confuses it with all kinds of berries) is well acted by Mr. Cecil Burt, his business with Miss Studholme causing hearty laughter. Mr. Walter Pearce as the husband is very amusing and the droll make-up of Miss Tiny Grattan (a daughter of Harry) is distinctly funny. Miss Grattan has little to do as the maid, but it is nevertheless an amusing character. Miss Studholme wears some beautiful gowns and looks as charming as ever. She received many curtain calls on Monday. The sketch is most artistically mounted.

"FIDO, THE BULL-DOG DETECTIVE."

A Sketch, Produced at the Aston Hippodrome on Monday, Feb. 17.

Molly Purvis .....Miss Molly Shine
George Purvis .....Mr. B. Murray
The Loafer .....Mr. Stanley Bareton
The Page / The Bull Dog .....Mr. Harry Rignold

Mr. Harry Rignold has launched out on a venture of his own that bids fair to be an interesting addition to the first-class acts of the day. His new sketch, entitled "Fido, the Bull-Dog Detective," is one of a most interesting character, and makes a strong appeal, not only on account of the excellent interpretation of the part of a faithful bull dog, but equally because of the many dramatic and humorous situations which follow one another in quick succession. Produced at the Aston Hippodrome this week the sketch has had a hearty reception.

Vivacious Molly Purvis is discovered reading a telegram handed to her by the Page, from which she learns that her cousin has decided to pay her a visit. The Page, however, who has seen a swell cracksman wandering about the neighbourhood, is somewhat doubtful as to whether the prospective visitor is really her cousin. He warns Molly, and here some very smart comedy is introduced, for the Page makes violent love to his mistress, and declares his intention of protecting her against all and sundry. He retires to announce the supposed cousin, and there is a fine dramatic situation when Molly discovers the impostor examining a desk where valuable papers are kept. The incident is followed by a surprise visit from an old man, who leaves Molly a present of a very fine bull-dog. Of course, the bull-dog is Harry Rignold, who plays the part admirably. His funny and, at the same time, faithful canine antics are a source of frequent laughter, and when he is left alone in the room for a little while he indulges in some remarkably clever comedy.

In order to make his exit the cracksman endeavours to persuade the dog to eat some poisoned meat. He thinks he has succeeded, and is just about to make his exit with the valuable papers when Fido intercepts him. There is a frantic struggle, which is done in realistic fashion. Molly enters and drags the dog away, who later throws off the bull-dog head, and reveals himself to be her faithful Page.

ALFRED BUTT AND AMERICAN ACTS.

A "Variety" interviewer sounded Mr. Butt while he was in New York on the engagement of American acts.

"It is quite true that I have engaged a certain number of acts, and that I have made arrangements for several artistes, now playing in various theatrical shows, to appear in London, but I can frankly say that the prohibitive prices asked have in many cases prevented me engaging quite a number of acts, that otherwise I should have been pleased to introduce to a new country. Of course, I do not blame the artistes in the slightest degree, as they are obviously entitled to get as much as they can. At the same time, they should consider the conditions under which they are offered engagements for London, and the manner of which they are likely to be exploited.

"Personally, I have no intention of entering into the ridiculous competition, which has arisen in England for the importation of American acts, at salaries often in excess of those they are obtaining here.

"I say 'ridiculous' because it must be obvious to everyone who thinks this matter out that if the engagement is made on a basis which does not permit of a reasonable return to the management in the end, the artistes will suffer accordingly."

There are between twelve and twenty thousand picture palaces in the United States; the total capital invested in the film trade being about £5,800,000.

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FUNERAL OF CHARLES SHEARD.

The remains of Mr. Charles Sheard were interred on Monday at 12 o'clock in Highgate Cemetery. Among the mourners who followed were Mrs. C. H. Sheard, Mr. Percy Sheard, Mrs. Harry Sheard, and Miss Beresford and Mr. H. H. Sheard. At the graveside were to be seen most of the members of the staff of Messrs. Charles Sheard and Co., including Messrs. I. Cuthbertson, E. Cuthbertson, F. Allen, Joseph Harrison, T. Booker, R. Greenwood, and W. Grey. Mr. T. E. Baker, country traveller, was unavoidably absent. Mr. Fred Day and Mr. Charles Willmott represented Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter, and Messrs. Green and Brand, the firm of Lowe and Brydone. Among others who came to pay their last tribute of respect to the deceased were Messrs. F. E. Day, Edward St. Quentin, Theo Bonheur, Felix McGlennon, Tissington, M. Fitzwilliams, J. Martin, A. Hanwell, Whitmarsh, F. Boxsius, and others.

The wreaths came from Mrs. C. H. Sheard, Mr. and Mrs. Percy Sheard and children, Mr. H. H. Sheard, staff of Messrs. Charles Sheard and Co., Mr. and Mrs. David Day, staff of Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter, Messrs. Lowe and Brydone, Mr. F. E. Day, Authors and Composers, Dr. and Mrs. Emiel, Mr. Edward St. Quentin, Mr. Sidney Davis, and Mr. T. W. Thurban, Mr. James Martin, and Mr. Alfred Hanwell.

One of the most admired floral tributes was a beautiful cushion, from the following authors and composers, in memory of the amicable relations which existed between the late publisher and all those with whom he had business relations:—Bert Addison, Lester Barrett, Clifton Bingham, Theo Bonheur, Harry Carlton, Harry Castling, Charles Collins, Worton David, Jack Foley, Harry Gifford, Fred Godfrey, Fred Lloyd, Thos McGhie, A. J. Wills, Fred Murray, John West, Paul Pelham, R. Penso, Herbert Rule, Walter Saxby, Bennett Scott, Geo. A. Stevens, Edward St. Quentin, Arthur Stroud, Joseph Tabrar, Will Terry, Huntley Trevor, Gilbert Wells, R. P. Weston, and Lawrence Wright.

THE ARGYLE, BIRKENHEAD.

Visitors to the popular Argyle Theatre, Birkenhead, cannot fail to be impressed with the complete transformation that has just been effected in the appearance of the vestibule, hall, main entrance and waiting-rooms to the orchestra stalls. A considerable work of artistic decoration has been carried out upon an elaborate scale by Mr. John Lindon, of Oxton, and from the point of view of artistic taste a wonderful improvement has been effected. Overhead a heavily-moulded Tynecastle ceiling has been introduced, and subsequently treated with paint and finished white it looks extremely attractive. In the hall the old plaster panel moulds have made way for a scheme of dark oak panelling which, in addition to its substantial appearance, is most restful to the eye and exceedingly ornate. The oak panelling has been carried out to a height of about seven feet, and above this the walls have been covered with a brown American leather paper, stamped with a gold fleur-de-lys. The whole of the woodwork, the door and window framings, etc., together with the pilasters and cornice in the vestibule, have been painted and enamelled black and heavily gilded with English gold. The staircase and entrance to the dress circle have also been subjected to the most ornate treatment. The old wooden rail has disappeared and polished brass rails and brackets, etc., substituted. The walls have been covered with a handsome Japanese paper, the pattern being the arms of Scotland, and the woodwork painted and finished in dark antique oak. In the circle itself the ceiling has been covered with a relief full-patterned anaglypta paper and finished in white, while the walls have been painted and finished crimson, with a white frieze. The sides of the boxes have been treated with a plain bronze Japanese paper, and the sides of the winged partition in the centre circle have been enamelled white and the centre panels filled with Swiss tekko. An antique oak finish has also been applied to the rest of the woodwork. The foyer has been magnificently decorated. A low relief anaglypta paper finished in white paint now adorns the ceiling, and the walls have been covered with a Swiss tekko. All the woodwork has been painted and enamelled white, and the dado finished in a plain dark orange colour. The waiting-room, stairway, and entrance to the stalls have been further beautified, too, by the introduction of a number of handsome pictures—copies of great masters, coloured by a special process. The pictures are what are known as the Menpes series, and they form faithful reproductions of works of many famous artists. The selection, too, reflects great credit on the artistic appreciation of Mr. D. J. Clarke. The works chosen are "La Gioconda," by Leonardo da Vinci; "Lady Hamilton," by G. Romney; "The Broken Pitcher," by Jean Baptiste Greuze; "The Laughing Cavalier," by Franz Hals; "The Inside of a Stable," by George Morland; "The Avenue, Middelharnis, Holland," by Hobbema; "Madame Bacelli," by Gainsborough; "Mrs. Siddons," by Gainsborough; and "The Topers," by Velazquez. The magnificently moulded heavy gilt frames by which the pictures are set off greatly enhance their appearance, and the innovation is one which might well be copied with advantage in other music halls and playhouses.

Upon his thought for the comfort of his many patrons Mr. D. J. Clarke, the enterprising proprietor of the theatre, is to be heartily congratulated, as also is the contractor, Mr. John Lindon, for the efficiency and promptitude with which he has carried out the work.

NEW MUSIC.

"Give me thy heart," by Godfrey Nutting. This is a song that should live; it has some fine and telling passages. Published by Messrs. Gould and Co. Price 2s. net.

"Trusting eyes," by Clarence Gartner. This song is very sympathetic in style with some fine chromatic harmonies, and an effective ending. Published by Messrs. Gould and Co. Price 2s. net.

"March of the Bulgars," by Ivan Stephanoff. A fantastic march with a weird melody in a minor occurring throughout, giving quite an Oriental effect. Published by Messrs. Gould and Co. Price 1s. net.

"Almond blossoms" (waltz), and "Hawthorn blossoms" (schottische). Two pretty simple little pieces for the piano, by Theo. Bonheur. Published by Messrs. Gould and Co. Price 6d. each net.

"The Scout," by Airlie Dix. A fine descriptive song, written in neat military style. Published by Messrs. Gould and Co. Price 2s. net.

"Can't Stop" (rag-time). Humorous sketch, with a merry air which goes with a swinging rhythm throughout, by Pete Washington. Published by Messrs. Gould and Co. Price 1s. net.

Miss Lil Hawthorne arrived from America per White Star s.s. Celtic on Saturday (15th) after a delightful voyage. Miss Hawthorne commences her road tour on Monday next (24th) at the Palace, Cork, with the Moss and Stoll circuits to follow.

Mr. William Crawford, a well-known Scottish comedian, has died at Gullane, East Lothian, at the age of seventy-five. From early forty years he appeared with success in the leading concert halls of Great Britain. He retired some eight years ago. Mr. Crawford was popular at Burns and Scott concerts in Liverpool, Manchester, and other centres.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

KINGSTON EMPIRE.

A powerful draw at the Kingston Empire this week is that well-known comedian, Joe Elvin, and his London company, in a sketch entitled "Patching it Up." This has to do with the quarrels of a husband and wife, in the course of which many droll things said by the husband, a part impersonated by Mr. Elvin, cause no end of laughter. Other parts in the sketch are most ably performed.

Another good turn is provided by the Seven Bramusas, in a nautical scena, introducing a brass band extravaganza, entitled, "Music Afloat." In their musical selections the septett are accompanied by the Empire Orchestra, and the effect was very highly appreciated. Gladys and Albur meet with much appreciation in their comedy act, and Miss Ruby Bijou is warmly applauded for her dancing as a Scotch lassie, a Dutch girl, and in a pas seul, artistically executed. The Four Whitworths, three of whom are of tender years, perform some very clever tricks on bicycles, and Molly Augarde shows possession of a fine voice in a number of popular songs. Marie Reeve, comedienne, sings two songs, "Clever Mr. Man," and "My heart is with you to-night," with great success, and the Rio Brothers give a somewhat novel gymnastic display. A clever performance by Hal Bert, the elastic comedian—who, by the way, has just finished a most successful engagement in pantomime at the Elephant and Castle—completes the bill.

THE SOUTH LONDON.

"Everybody's doing it," and so we were not surprised when we looked in at the above house on Tuesday last to find rag-time in full swing, being presented by that clever trio, Hedges Bros. and Jacobsen. A new number, into which such popular refrains as "Swannee River" and "Home sweet home" are blended, gives promise of being quite the most successful number these clever entertainers have yet done. Lily Long, the six-foot eccentric comedienne, meets with much approval in her two songs, "You shall go in the pantomime" and "Has anybody seen my little Georgie?" "The Dancing Master" is a capital and picturesque terpsichorean act presented by Pyck, Tholl and Taylor, and Cissie Sylvester scores considerably in two catchy chorus numbers, "The ragged ragtime band" and "Turn off your light Mr. Moonman." Sados is responsible for a distinctly clever juggling act, though why the amusing dwarf comedian who assists him should not be mentioned by name on the programme we cannot understand. Giovanni Colombo is described as the great Italian baritone. Is he? Anyhow, he was quite artistic in "Come, sing to me." One of the best little sketches of everyday life we have seen is "Jim's Pal," which is presented with much success by Shirley and Ransome. These two artistes fully deserved the tumultuous applause which greeted them at the conclusion of their turn.

Leo Dryden supplies three numbers—"Just for friendship sake," "My little tumble-down shanty," and a musical monologue, "Everywoman." He was well received. Joe Peterman's latest production, "A Seaside Review," is just as it is described, a merry wave of incidents, and provides a most diverting and amusing quarter of an hour. Pictures on the Bioscope and selections by Mr. Charles E. Howell's orchestra complete a most enjoyable programme.

BATTERSEA PALACE.

Miss Ray Roy is Battersea's bright particular star this week, her very pleasing turn at the above hall proving at once highly popular and successful, with crowded audiences and being quite the most artistic item in this week's bill. Possessed of a sweet voice and charming presence, Miss Ray, in her graceful new song scena, quite effectively and speedily dances her way with pleasant song right into the hearts of Battersea audiences, as doubtless she will continue to do with many other audiences in many other halls. The management would have been wise in allowing this charming lady a more extended time for her turn. Battersea wanted more of her, and Battersea was greatly disappointed when she retired.

In the rest of the programme the management happily revert this week to a more strictly music hall entertainment than has been the rule for a long time past at this hall, presenting several turns and two pieces of some length in place of one lengthy drama to practically fill the bill. Amongst the turns Rall and Tando, vocal comedy duo, are successful. The Forders, the human mannikins, give an entertaining performance. Hughes and Harlem exploit the Ragtime with no inconsiderable ability, and Lona, the musical marvel, is also interestingly placed in the bill.

A domestic comedy drama, "My Partner," by Bartley Campbell, would, with judicious cutting, play more effectively. Its story concerns the seduction of Mary Brandon by Ned Singleton, whose partner, Joe Sanders, is honestly in love with the girl, but, on discovering her secret, insists that Ned shall marry her at once. Before Ned can do so, however, he is killed in a brawl by the unscrupulous Josiah Scraggs, the blame falling upon the honest Joe. Joe's ultimate acquittal and his marriage to Mary at short notice "off" and the arrest of the true murderer happily concludes the little play, which is presented in three acts of considerable length.

As Josiah Mr. Frank Stone acts with suitable villainy. Joe Saunders and Ned Singleton, the two partners, are respectively portrayed by Mr. Dick Cruikshanks and Mr. Alfred Lugg, who play together capitally and with considerable feeling in the scene of parting between the two partners. Mathew Brandon is safe in the hands of Mr. G. P. Lester. Major Butt, who has little to do with the plot except to make himself an amusing nuisance to everybody whenever he appears, has a capital representative in Mr. Hugh Carmichael; and Wing Lee, the Chinaman is successfully played by Mr. Fred de Vere.

As Mary Brandon Miss Ida A. Chapman exhibits much feeling, and plays well throughout. Miss May Davis is a good Grace Brandon, and Miss Nelson Ramsey, with somewhat scant opportunities, is duly amusing in the comedy part.

Concluding the programme a farcical absurdity is given entitled "Binns of the Barge," an effective scene showing the barge lying at the wharf giving this piece a good send-off when the curtain rises. The piece itself proves to be a farrago of boisterous and amusing nonsense much to the popular taste. Mr. Syd Kearns, a favourite at this house, plays the chief part, Binns, the Bargee, with considerable humour. Captain Cauldron is most amusingly played by Mr. Frank Stone. Miss Sadie Sothern makes a charming heroine as Pearl Roar, and Mr. Alfred Lugg acts well as her aristocratic lover. Others suitably placed in the cast are Mr. Fred Hunter, Mr. Leo Main, Mr. Richard Cruikshanks, Miss Nelson Ramsey, and Mr. Fred de Vere.

LEWISHAM HIPPODROME

A most varied programme is being presented this week, and the selection, apparently, is to the audience's liking. Miss Hetty King contributes her numbers—"Follow the lines" and the soldier study, "One of the nuts"—with her characteristic charm, and neither song loses anything by repetition. They become indeed quite fresh when presented by a finished artiste of her calibre. Harry Weldon is absolutely "the limit" in his new numbers, the first, "A soldier's song," and the second, "Jack Sheppard," a burglar. With none of the old-time "gagging," but rich humour and most absurd situations in the second item, he keeps the house in one roar of laughter.

Miss Beryl Mercer and her company present a highly humorous comedy sketch, entitled "Their Point of View," in which Miss Mercer enacts the part of "an 'Oxton widder." She, being most anxious to get her second son into an industrial home to enable him to receive the training and start in life, as did his brother Albert, endeavours to enlist the services of the chaplain in getting him to leave the "straight path" and get "pinched," to enable him to become a candidate. The playlet is bristling with cleverly thought out situations, and Miss Mercer is the character to the life. Mr. Cecil Bevan is most amusing in manner as the chaplain, and Mr. Arthur Cleave does good work in the part of Albert.

Harry and Fanny Dent present a refined comedy sketch with song and dance; and Lew Lake and company—old favourites with Lewisham audiences—are always assured of a welcome with "My Pal Jerry." Jenny and Joe are clever singers and dancers; and Zaleski is a most clever contortionist. Kitty Grey, a young songstress, sings "Come, sing to me" and "The magic of your voice" in cultured style, and possesses a mezzo-soprano voice of exceptional power in one so young. George Collins is an eccentric comedian of talent. The Bioscope concludes the list, of which Mr. Tom Jones, the most courteous and attentive of managers, might well be proud.

COLLINS'S.

It is quite evident that Mr. Gaddell, the popular manager of this well-known house, is bent on giving his patrons full value for their money, and as a consequence the seating capacity of the building is being severely tested. Unfortunately, Jack Pleasants was unable to appear on the night of our visit owing to illness, and an opportunity was presented to Brooks and Rivers to exhibit their powers as entertainers. Their skit on a "Breach of Promise" case was ludicrously funny, and they fully deserved all the applause they received. Miss Mary True, the country girl, proved herself an accomplished exponent in the art of playing an English concertina, and that versatile entertainer, Mr. J. P. Ling, received a hearty ovation. The Five Original Cliftons, in their [illegible]astic and equilibristic performance, gave an excellent exhibition, and performed some very remarkable feats. Dusty Rhodes, the singing comedian, in both his songs caused no end of fun, his parody on "Mother," who always spent her last penny on a cane for her darling boy, being perhaps the best of the two.

Mr. Geo. Marriott presented an intensely thrilling episode, entitled "A Fight in the Dark," the scene being a most realistic representation of an "Out-West" shanty. Miss Edith Finlay as Kate and Mr. Geo. Marriott as the settler were all that could be desired, and were accorded a most gratifying reception. Mr. Frank Cass, the versatile comedian, provoked great laughter by his humour, whilst Hayman and Franklin, in their latest farcical mix-up, entitled "Cohen's Mistake," kept the audience bubbling over with mirth. Joseph Barret, the boy musician, presented an exceedingly well-executed musical act. Mr. Fred Edwards, assisted by Miss May Yates, in their hilarious absurdity, entitled "Kleptomaniacs," simply kept the house in a continual roar of laughter.

ILFORD HIPPODROME.

Pride of place on the current bill here is occupied by Messrs. Macdonald and Young's company in "The River Girl," by Fred Allandale and Bert Lee. "The River Girl" is described as a farcical sketch without a plot, but it contains just enough of a plot to sustain interest. Farcical it undoubtedly is, and a particularly bright and pleasing example of its kind. It is beautifully dressed and mounted, and is vivaciously presented by a capable company, including Mr. Richard Teasdale, Miss Jane Eyre, Miss Gay Sylvani, and Mr. Horace Jones.

Olga, Elgar, and Eli Hudson are prime favourites here as elsewhere, and their presentation of a drawing-room entertainment was a musical treat. To listen to the perfectly rendered flute and piccolo numbers, or the well-trained and beautiful voice of the soloist, is a genuine pleasure. They had a splendid reception.

The Brothers Erard are a clever pair of acrobatic musical comedians, and the balancing and tumbling evolutions which they perform while playing a variety of musical instruments can be described as little short of wonderful. Jenny Johns, comedienne, imparted a freshness into her work which greatly pleased the big audience. She sang two capital chorus songs, "Gwennie Morgan" and "The pierrot on the pier," using her fine voice with excellent effect.

Arthur F. Ward is to be complimented on his feat of juggling a large number of hoops in the air at the same time. He completes a smart turn with an original version of an American eccentric dance. Cissy Lupino presented a series of speciality dances in a neat and graceful manner, her variety of dances being a welcome change from the style of dancing now so much in evidence.

Grant and Grant, American Octoroons, who provide the rag-time element of the programme, are highly capable singers and dancers, and Charles Merry, comedian, completes the programme with a burlesque coon song and dance.

ROTHERHITHE HIPPODROME.

Mr. E. P. Durham, the courteous manager of his well-known waterside resort, is presenting a bill of exceptional merit this week. Besides the advertised programme, an extra turn appeared on Tuesday—Miss Lena Robbie, who sang in good style "The man in the moon," followed by a smart step-dance. Anna Gold and her dancing boys was a very popular turn, and Patsy and Sally, described as the most marvellous chimpanzees in the world, went far to justify that title, the act being well presented also. We think, however, if possible, their movements should be confined to the stage, as, although their entrance into the stalls caused much amusement, several members of the audience were obviously alarmed. They eat, drink, prepare for bed, skate, and ride a bicycle and tandem in an accomplished manner; and the applause at the end of their performance was long and sustained.

Mlle. Irma Lorraine is heading the bill here, and is presenting an artistic performance of exceptional merit; several of the beautiful poses and pictures were received with unmistakeable delight, a long-drawn "Oh!" going as a murmur through the house. The dancing of Miss Lorraine and Mlle. Manjah captivated the audience, too, being very graceful and finished.

La Belle Linda is a very clever trick cyclist, and very dainty, too; her various tricks evoked much applause, and the performance given by this charming lady is one of the best of its kind we have seen. The Motramos, in a farcical interlude, were well received, their sallies getting home each time, and they are also quite accomplished musicians.

Andy McLeod and May Dillon are also in the bill, which includes an intensely dramatic episode presented by Fergus Leslie and company, entitled "The Lie!"

Owing to the indisposition of Mr. Sam Kelly, Mr. Will Harrison, of Harrison Bros., is playing the part of page in John Tiller's pantomime, "Cinderella," and has scored a huge success with crowded houses at the Pavilion, Liverpool.

MUSIC HALL FAVOURITES.

MISS RENE RALPH.

Miss Rene Ralph, the Elephant and Castle Theatre's popular principal boy in the recent production of "Jack and the Beanstalk," repeated her pantomime success at the South London last week and is quite one of the most popular turns at the Camberwell Palace this week. Her first song, "In a striking sort of way" (in which she demonstrates the fact that she can look just as lovely attired as a member of her own sex as that of the opposite), being followed by an entirely new number of Francis, Day and Hunter's, sung for the first time by Miss Ralph on Monday evening, called "It's a girl again." Miss Ralph appears in this as a boy, and the applause which greets her entrance is ample evidence of her popularity.

Miss Ralph—whose claim to be regarded as the youngest principal boy we think must be conceded, for she is not yet out of her teens—has the advantage of heredity. Her father is Ted Young, the well-known comedian, and her mother Ada Twibell, one of the most famous principal boys of her time. From a chat which our representative had with her he gathered that she had always been fond of the stage, her ambition being to become a musical comedy star, "à la George Edwardes," as she herself expressed it. She is passionately fond of outdoor sport, and is quite an expert at lawn tennis, cricket, and hockey, although not quite so successful at golf.

[*Photo. by Claude Harris*

MISS RENE RALPH.

It was at the West London Theatre, in the 1911-12 pantomime, that Mr. Wentworth Croke saw her as Robin Hood, and immediately engaged her as principal boy for the Elephant the following year, and her triumph at that popular house is evidenced by the fact that Mr. Croke has re-engaged her for 1913-14 and 1914-15 at a big increase.

As a single turn she is one of the daintiest comediennes we have seen, and looks sweetly pretty in her charming costumes, while her step-dancing is both smart and clever. Her agents, Frederick and Horace Reeves, are very busy with future bookings. Next week she is at the Palace, Leicester, and the following week at another of the Stoll halls, the Manchester Hippodrome.

RICHMOND HIPPODROME.

A strong bill is in evidence here this week, and Mr. H. J. Tilley has had wonderful business to record, a fact that reflects to no inconsiderable extent on his undoubted ability as manager "of the little house on the Green." An accomplished little lady is Miss Jane Eyre, who mimics, dances and plays the grand piano. Her skill on the latter instrument is phenomenal, and she wins the applause of the audience for a singularly artistic performance. Estelle Collette proves a talented violinist, and scores an unmistakable triumph with a fine performance of "The Carnival of Venice." She will make a mark anon.

With all her well-known charm and in wonderful voice, Miss Evie Greene sings in her inimitable way "I hear you calling," with the inevitable encore; the great artiste scores another triumph with "The Corsican maid," and the audience, ready to recognise real merit, cheer her to the echo; and "The rosary" completes her trio of successes for the evening.

"Motoring," as played by Harry Tate, has become a classic, and is as admirably presented as on the first night. Everyone engaged enters into the fun of the thing, and the versatile comedian, with a long line of successes, has never done anything better. The audience rocked with laughter, and Mr. Tate may lay flattering unction to his soul that he is the innocent cause of it.

An extraordinary little lady is Miss Ella Bell, who peeps into futurity, and is alleged to have foretold the assassination of the late unfortunate Nazim Pasha; be that as it may, her powers are certainly extraordinary, and her cultivation of the sixth sense has reached a high-water mark. The audience appeared perfectly satisfied with the replies of Miss Bell. We are to have a new Government in October with a majority of 81 *sans* Labour; and Miss Bell predicts that Chelsea will win "the Cup." As Chelsea is out of it, this information must be taken *cum grano salis*.

Humorous ditties supplied by Ted Cowan cause some merriment; his second selection, "I gave them a tune on my whistle," is droll. Another fun-maker in the bill is Mr. Fred Earle—always a favourite. With a fine reputation, the Brooklyn Comedy Four do everything to enhance it; their harmonies are delightful, and their rendition of "Excelsior" one of the gems of the evening. Abey and Hearn work hard as humorous acrobats; and the orchestra, under Mr. G. D. Weatherstone, give a really capital selection from "Patience." For the rest, all goes merrily—as it should.

A benefit matinée on behalf of Captain Scott's Memorial Fund will take place on Friday, March 7, at the Surrey Theatre.

The Stoll Suburban Houses.—At the outlying "Empires" the principal engagements for next week are Vesta Tilley (Wood Green); C. Aubrey Smith and Lilian Braithwaite, in "Instinct" (Hackney); Fred Karno's "The Hydro," Ludwig Amann, and Harry Champion (Shepherd's Bush); and George Barrett, in "Two Flats," Fregolis, and the Grotesques (Chiswick).

BILLY ROSS AND "SAM HALL."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—In your issue for Feb. 1, S. J. A. F., in an interesting article entitled "The Old-Time Sing-Song," states that the historic singer of the famous lyric, the lurid "Sam Hall," in the Cyder Cellars in Maiden-lane, Strand, was David Ross. This, however, is quite a mistake, as it is well known that the singer was the great William G. Ross.

"Dickey" Doyle's admirable drawing of the Cyder Cellars during a comic song, which is preserved in the volume of "Punch" for 1849, shows Billy Ross, as he was familiarly known to the frequenters of the old-time song and supper rooms and music halls, on the platform chanting "Sam Hall," with a little pianist seated before a cottage piano with the upright back playing the accompaniment, and a table occupied by the chairman and another gentleman. At the little tables on the floor there are the jeunesse dorée of the City, all smoking or eating. All are supplied with drinks—that almost goes without saying. Billy put up his price to £5 a week while "Sam Hall" was the rage of the C.C.—a salary that created a sensation in "the" profession in the eighteen-forties.

Billy Ross was a son of Auld Caledonia, and was born and bred in Glasgow. He commenced his business career as an apprentice compositor in the office of the Glasgow "Saturday Evening Post." His leanings, however, were towards a career more exciting, and he became a public man on the boards of the famous Shakespeare Singing Saloon in the Sautmarket of his native city, which popular howff was the premier house in town long before the dawn of Davie Broon's Music Hall in Dunlop Street, and Shearer's Whitebait Concert Rooms in St. Enoch Wynd. At the Shakespeare Ross was celebrated for his rendering of "The Lively Flea," "The Cobbler" (a song dealing with Napoleon and Waterloo), "Richard ye Third," and "Shivery Shaky," but his masterpiece was the well known burlesque ditty, "Lord Lovel," which he sang in frock-coat, buckskin breeches, coloured waistcoat, top boots, and several yards of cambric round his neck.

These were the days of the long descriptive songs—songs that took well-nigh half-an-hour to execute, and detailed the entire plot of a novel or a drama. Billy was so devoted to these lugubrious compositions that he persistently sang them, and he declined to the point of becoming a chorus singer. The last I heard of poor Billy Ross was towards the end of the eighteen-eighties. He was then playing "old man" characters in a penny gaff outside London.—Yours faithfully,

D. G. M., Glasgow.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—A striking portrait of W. G. Ross, as he appeared when singing "Sam Hall," is amongst the interesting collection of theatrical pictures which adorns the walls of the Playgoers' Club in Cranbourn-street, and a good account of the song, written by Percival Leigh, is quoted in Clement Scott's "The Drama of Yesterday and To-day." The first verse, a fair specimen of the others, runs as follows:—

"My name it is Sam Hall, chimney sweep;
My name it is Sam Hall.
I robs both great and small,
But they makes me pay for all--
Damn their eyes!"

Your correspondent, "D. G. M., of Glasgow," says the last he heard of poor Billy Ross was towards the end of the eighteen-eighties, when he was playing "old man" characters in a penny gaff outside London. I am rather doubtful whether there were any penny gaffs in existence so late as this. Anyhow, John Hollingshead, in his autobiography, "My Lifetime," states that Ross ended his days as a chorus singer at the old Gaiety Theatre. He died about 1882.—Yours faithfully,

EDWIN H. SHEAR.

THE OLD-TIME MUSIC HALL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—The other day my old music-hall partner and I, after an interval of years, met. Reviewing our struggles and triumphs of thirty years ago the conversation naturally turned on the above subject and the correspondence started in your valuable journal by good old Billy Bint. We have both had an intimate acquaintance with the variety business for forty years, so we spoke by the card." My old partner is now a well-known author-manager, but he retains his affection for the old type of music hall and the "old pros." of the past, but he agrees with me, as all must admit (however it may go against the personal inclination of many, both in the profession and out of it), that the music hall business is progressive, with a very big capital P.

I expect it is the common heritage of middle age to feel fond regrets for the past, illuminated as it is with the glamour and romance of youthful inexperience. Who ever saw a pantomime to compare with that never never-to-be-forgotten one (whether at Drury Lane or an obscure country theatre) which first gave a child its first peep at the glittering realms of Fairyland? Said my old partner, "I'd give a fiver to have a night in some of the old halls!" and then we affectionately shook hands and discoursed about the old Middlesex, the Sun at Knightsbridge, Wilton's, the Raglan, Lusby's, the old Royal, Sam Collins's, "The Mont," the South London, Gatti's Arches, &c., &c. Then we touched the provinces, with delightful memories of famous artistes who graduated at such noted halls as the Britannia and Scotia, Glasgow; the Alhambra, Pavilion, and Britannia, Sheffield; the Folly, Manchester; Day's, Birmingham; &c., with incidental reminiscences of "Baron" Courtnay and his diamonds, "old" Paul of Paul's, Leicester, and other chairmen.

I think music-hall "history" is worthy of study, and that the memories of many talented artistes of the past remembered with gratitude and affection by thousands of the general public, should be treasured by all young performers, some of whom would lamentably fail without the aid of splendid orchestras, limelight, electricity, and appropriate scenery.

Personally, my sympathies are with Will Bint, and I know many here in Sheffield who would cordially welcome a revival of the old music hall, or even the variety theatre of the 'eighties. To bring about this consummation, however, would be to alter the general order of things. For good or ill this is the era of "Progress," and the fashion of the times is entirely in unison with the great variety profession. Singly or collectively, the music hall has *always* progressed. The origin of all the famous variety palaces, previous to the empires' boom, was extremely lowly, and the history of one will apply to the lot, with the exception of the Alhambra, in Leicester-square.

There is no doubt that some day there will be a return to a smaller class of variety theatre, with distinctly a music-hall programme, for the tendency of the big establishments is to depend more and more on purely theatrical fare and spectacle. I think the crowded state of the picture theatres (especially where two or three turns are put on) points to this. When this happy time arrives all classes will be suited, with the exception of the born grumbler. So I hope there are a few budding artistes preparing to follow the footsteps of past stars like George Leybourne, Harry Rickards, Jolly John Nash, J. H. Stead (the cure), Vance, Fred Coyne, Ashcroft, Pat Feeney, Macdermott, Walter Laburnam, Sam Bagnall, Dan Leno, Georgina Smithson, Annie Adams, Louie Sherrington, Jennie Hill, Bessie Bonehill, and others, and present favourites, who were brought up in the "old-time" music halls.

In conclusion, permit me to deny the charge—often made by ignorant, or interested persons—that the comic singer of the past was generally vulgar or suggestive. I was in close touch with the halls as a performer during the palmy days of the "lion comique," and I am glad to say that, from George Leybourne downwards, the songs, patter, and by-play were generally entirely free from indecent allusions. There were occasional lapses from good taste, and at times there was vulgarity but I ask any fair-minded person if every song, dance, and bit of business is perfectly above suspicion even in these ultra-refined and highly moral times.—Yours truly,

SHEFFIELDER.

HENGLER'S RECORD SEASON IN GLASGOW.

A LAST NIGHT RAG-TIME.

The close of the circus season in Glasgow took place on Saturday last, the huge building being crammed from floor to ceiling with an enthusiastic crowd. In these days when pessimistic writers are bewailing the "decadence of the circus" it is interesting to know from Mr. Hengler himself that this circus season has beaten all the Glasgow records for fifty years back, and all the minor records have also been smashed, the biggest matinée, the biggest evening, and the best week being all comprised in this season.

Mr. Hengler, in adressing the audience during the evening, mentioned the fact that the passing of many places of amusement into the hands of great syndicates rather alienated the sympathy that should exist between the manager and his audience, but in the case of Hengler's Circus there has always been the strong personal feeling of friendship between them. At the conclusion of his speech Mr. Hengler was presented with a floral horse-shoe by a young lady, on behalf of the front staff.

An amusing extra turn was given on Saturday, and the fun of it brought down the house. After the circus act of "The White Rider" was finished, Mr. Mike Mono stepped into the ring and sang "That mysterious rag." As the haunting melody of the chorus was being sung, the clownesses, twenty-four in number, danced into the arena and joined in the chorus as they cake-walked round. Then the "mysterious rag" took the heads of the dignified ringmaster and his subordinates, and they joined in, followed by the stable boys in their shirt sleeves, the girl attendants in their neat uniforms, the electrician with a lamp globe in one hand and a huge spanner in the other, the manager (Mr. Harry Milne) with a leather bag marked £ s. d., the front door man with a House Full board, the young chocolate girls with their trays distributing (empty) chocolate boxes with reckless prodigality, the elderly cleaners, the dressers, even the moneytakers deserted their posts for the time being, and, finally, Mr. Hengler himself caught the rag-time fever and joined the merry band who were turkey-trotting or Gaby-gliding around the ring. The surprise and astonishment of the audience at the scene was amusing to witness, and the applause and laughter at the end was a hearty tribute to a cleverly worked "rag."

VARIETY LAW.

PICTURE HALL LESSEE FINED.

At the Consett Police Court, on Monday, John George Dixon, the licensee of the Empire Picture Hall, West Stanley, was proceeded against for three breaches of the Cinematograph Act of 1904. The charges were for having altered the sitting arrangements in the building, allowing the gangways to be overcrowded, and likewise with further altering the premises without the permission of the magistrates.

Mr. H. Jackson, Consett, prosecuted, and Mr. Edward Clark, Newcastle, defended.

Superintendent Dryden gave evidence as to visiting the picture hall on Jan. 25 and finding the place crowded. People were standing in the gangway, which he considered was too narrow. He also found that the sitting arrangements had been so altered as to increase accommodation from 380 to 500 people. A new pay-box had also been erected, and the intervening space between that and the seating was only 16in., which was not sufficient to allow people to get out. The space in some parts of the gangway was only from 2ft. to 2ft. 6in. in width. An exit had been closed and another substituted in another part of the hall.

The defendant told witness that the plans for alterations had been approved of by the local authority, but he was not aware that he had to submit the same to the magistrates.

The magistrates considered that the crowding of the gangway was a serious offence, and ordered defendant to pay 10s. and costs. The other summonses were adjourned for two months.

Another charge was preferred against S. T. Johnson, the licence-holder of the Elite Theatre, West Stanley, for an offence under the same Act.

Superintendent Dryden spoke as to visiting the theatre on Jan. 25. The floor of the building had been raised 8ft. at the back without the permission of the magistrates. The gangway down the centre had also been removed, and two narrow gangways substituted.

Defendant did not appear, and his licence was revoked.

MUSIC HALL QUEUES.

On behalf of Messrs. Lyons, Sons, and Co., embroidery and trimming manufacturers, Mr. Hughes, K.C., moved, in the Chancery Division on the 14th inst., before Mr. Justice Joyce, to restrain Mr. Charles Gulliver and the London Theatre of Varieties (Ltd.) from obstructing the access to plaintiffs' premises in Argyll-street, Oxford-circus, by permitting crowds to assemble and queues to form outside the Palladium. Plaintiffs had the misfortune to be neighbours of defendants.

Mr. Younger, K.C. (for defendants): I am instructed that it must be a great advantage to you.

Mr. Hughes replied that there might be advantages in the proximity, but there was also the disadvantage that people waiting formed up in queues and blocked the means of access to plaintiffs' place of business. It was true, no doubt, that defendants had not had the opportunity of dealing with the evidence, and counsel did not object to the motion standing over for a week, but he thought that defendants should undertake to do their best meanwhile to keep an opening in the queue opposite the entrance to plaintiffs' premises.

Mr. Younger agreed that that should be done. He added that the wrong defendants had been sued, as the Capital Syndicate (Ltd.), and not the London Theatre of Varieties, were the owners of the Palladium.

Mr. Hughes dissented, but said he would join the Capital Syndicate (Ltd.) as defendants.

The motion was therefore adjourned till Friday.

The Pavilion Theatre, Ayr, will celebrate on Monday, March 3, its first anniversary as a music hall. A strong programme will be presented, including "Faking the Film" and Miss Helen Charles. On the Wednesday the managing-director, Mr. Harry J. Bilsborough, will take his first annual benefit.

"THE DEATH OF SAMSON."

A NOVEL ATHLETIC ACT.

A strong man's revenge is depicted in the new show which Luis Hardt, the athlete, is this week presenting at the Victoria Palace. The act is founded on the well-known Biblical episode of Samson's tragic end, and the scene represents a well-built up set of the Temple, with Samson chained to a pillar. The prisoner's efforts to free himself give opportunity for the display of his marvellous muscular development, thew and sinew being outlined in an extraordinary degree. A few minutes suffice for Samson to burst his bonds, and to push the pillars, bringing the edifice tumbling to the ground. The most exciting part of Monday evening's performance was when a portion of one pillar came rolling down to the footlights, and only escaped falling into the orchestra by the united efforts of the conductor and first violin.

In the first portion of his new act, M. Hardt, who makes his appearance in evening dress and stylish top-coat, accomplishes some remarkable weight-lifting and equally astonishing posing. His most amazing feat is when he lies prone on the floor and bears up at one time on his body two stalwart men-in-armour and a number of gorgeous flunkeys that attend him. The act is elaborately mounted, and is a notable improvement on the ordinary "strong" show.

THE INEVITABLE RAG-TIME.

Rag-time has its representatives in Mr. Alfred Butt's truly varied bill in the American Octette, who present a comprehensive array of sincopated songs, including the inevitable "Hitchey-Koo," and the concerted number "Waiting for the Robert E. Lee," in which the various performers sing from different places in the auditorium. The young men work admirably together, and give a very exhilarating show.

"A LAMB ON WALL-STREET."

An attractive item in the programme is the amusing sketch, "A Lamb on Wall-street," in which Mr. Bert Coote as the amiable dude, who suddenly develops a cuteness hitherto unsuspected, causes roars of laughter. He is ably supported by Miss Beatrix Wynn and Mr. J. C. Aubrey.

A POPULAR PROGRAMME.

Miss Jewel St. Leger, who recently figured in the Prince's pantomime, gains great applause for her singing to her own concertina accompaniment of "The last rose of summer," and Mr. Bertram Banks' imitations of children are very entertaining. The evolutions of the Victoria Troupe of ladies on the cycle are both graceful and expert, and the Four Amaranths, also of the fairer sex, execute clever tumbling feats and agile dances. Esta Stella, the original "Military Maid," sings and dances blithely; Alf Chester appears in a policeman selection; and the programme at the popular Pimlico house also includes the Picquays, Elsie Roby, the pianologuedienne, and the latest events on the bioscope.

"INSTINCT" AT CHISWICK.

Play, in Three Acts, by Penrhyn Stanlaws, Presented at Chiswick Empire, Feb. 17.

Walker ..... Mr. Tom Mowbray
Mrs. Walker ..... Miss Mary Raby
Mrs. Mandover ..... Miss Lilian Braithwaite
Arthur Mandover, M.D. .. Mr. Charles Vernon
Bradford Mandover, M.D., F.R.S. Mr. C. Aubrey Smith

Produced originally at the Duke of York's Theatre, "Instinct" owes its original inception to Henry Kistemaeckers, adapted by Mr. Penrhyn Stanlaws. Both author and adapter have done well, and, presented as the play is, in tabloid form, it proves a veritable triumph. Bradford Mandover is at the top of his profession—a surgeon of wide-world reputation. He is engrossed with the cares of his profession, so much so that the home circle is banished for the fascinations of his profession. When, therefore, his wife, with womanly pity thrilling her heart, meets a poor rhymester, who is suffering from an incurable complaint and has only a year to live, she devotes her energies to soothing his affliction by sweet womanly sympathy; the poet naturally loves her—it was inevitable. Anon the doctor hears of this, with the usual result; he will kill this interloper without compunction and he will throw his wife into the streets. The poet, ill and dying, visits Mrs. Mandover on the eve of her departure for Switzerland; he is desperately ill, and the shock is too much. He falls, fractures his skull, and is at death's point. Mrs. Mandover pleads supplicatingly for her husband's professional aid. But the doctor is a prey to the hell of jealousy. Threats, promises and persuasion are all in vain; "Let him die." But the professional side of his character peeps out, and, after a superb scene, he throws all to the winds and plays the Samaritan by saving the man's life.

"Instinct" is brilliantly interpreted by the company engaged. Nothing could be finer than the Dr. Mandover of Mr. C. Aubrey Smith. It should rank among the actor's long list of successes as one of the best things he has ever done. In Act III. he was simply magnificent, and portrayed the feelings of the jealous husband with life-like fidelity. Miss Lilian Braithwaite scores a huge and unqualified success as the hapless Mrs. Mandover, the surgeon's wife. Pity is her creed; here is a poor doomed fellow-creature with only a brief period to live. She imbued him with hope and lightened his sufferings. To a jealous husband this meant intrigue, treachery, and infidelity. Miss Braithwaite won a veritable triumph, and her impersonation marked the success of the production; in less skilful hands "Instinct" might suffer; as it is, it proves a thrilling episode worthy of the best traditions of the Thespian art. As the surgeon's brother Arthur, Mr. Charles Vernon has every reason to be complimented, and throughout he wins the sympathy of the audience by his admirable acting. Miss Mary Raby does quite well as the housekeeper, who dabbles in Cupid's toils to oblige her mistress, and Mr. Tom Mowbray is sufficiently brutal and repulsive as Walker.

"Instinct" met with an enthusiastic reception, and Miss Braithwaite and Mr. C. Aubrey Smith were "called" no less than five times to receive the congratulations of the audience. It proved a memorable production.

In addition to "Instinct" there is a strong variety bill here this week. "Come Aboard, Sir," forms a pleasing interlude, and is capably enacted by Harry Gribben and company. To excel is to command a public; hence Marcus and Gartelle, comedians on skates, demonstrate their skill, and do so with an amazing amount of humour; indeed, the house roars at the eccentricities of this waggish pair. Here is also Gintaro, a juggler from Japan—dexterous is he—and Coram, ventriloquist, who hits off the weaknesses of a newly-fledged Tommy, and succeeds beyond question in keeping everyone in a good humour. A violinist familiar to the variety patrons is Doroswami, who meets with an encouraging reception, and of whose talents there is not a shadow of a doubt.

One is very glad to read the report of the London Pavilion directors for the year ended Dec. 31, 1912, which shows a net profit of £10,028 .0s. 3d. This has enabled the directors to pay a dividend of 3 per cent. on the ordinary shares, a distinct improvement on the two previous years, when no dividend was paid on those shares. Everything points to a further improvement in the prosperity of the undertaking during 1913. On this improved state of things the directors and Mr. Frank Glenister are to be congratulated.

"IN THE LIBRARY."

Dramatic Sketch, by W. W. Jacobs and Herbert C. Sargent, Adapted from a Story by the Former, produced at the London Opera House on Monday, Feb. 17.

Trayton Burleigh ..... Mr. Roland Pertwee
James Fletcher ..... Mr. Cyril H. Sworder
The Burglar ..... Mr. Richard Norton
Sergeant of Police .... Mr. Lancelot Lowder

Mr. W. W. Jacobs and Mr. Herbert C. Sargent have collaborated successfully in both serious and humorous plays, the story being supplied by the former—and who so completely absorbs a reader by his dramatic power and inventiveness and his unusual humour as Mr. Jacobs?—and the dramatic construction by the latter. Each seems to work so well with the other that the result usually spells success. At any rate, there should be no doubt of such good fortune in the case of the petite drama "In the Library," introduced into this week's bill by Mr. Ben Nathan at the London Opera House, and produced there under the direction of Mr. Arthur Bourchier.

The story is simple and to the point. Burleigh and Fletcher are partners in business, and share the same house. The latter discovers that during his temporary absence Burleigh has been making use of certain trust monies, and the scene opens where honest and upright Fletcher awaits the return of Burleigh, a powerful and quick-tempered man, to confront him with his misdeeds. The man enters, and a strong scene then ensues between the two partners. Burleigh is offered £200 in notes to clear out of the country, and Fletcher promises that the defalcations shall be made good for "the sake of the firm's honour." The offer is refused, and as no better one is forthcoming, Burleigh becomes furious, and finding his partner indifferent to his threats, in a fit of passion, snatches a Japanese dagger from the wall and stabs his partner. The victim falls apparently dead, and Burleigh, hearing a noise, quickly covers the body with a tablecloth. He then takes money from desk and safe, quietly pockets a revolver found in a drawer, appropriates the two hundred pounds which he abstracts from the dead man's pocket, switches off the lights, and stands by the door listening, with revolver in hand. The door is opened by a burglar, and Burleigh, seeing a way of saddling another man with his crime, turns up the lights, and holds up the cowering thief. He asks: "What have you done with my friend, Fletcher?" The burglar, having only just entered the house, cannot understand, but Burleigh locks him in and goes for the police. During his absence the burglar finds the body, and makes frantic efforts to escape, the sight of a dead man terrifying him, but he fails to get out. Burleigh returns with the police, the burglar is handcuffed and accused of murder, and everything happens as the cunning partner had planned. The police inspector, however, stooping down to the body, discovers, unknown to the others, that Fletcher is not quite dead. He places his ear close to the victim's mouth, and is told the name of the real murderer, just before the fatally wounded man draws his last breath. The situation is a difficult one for the inspector, for Burleigh is armed, but by a clever ruse he both disarms and handcuffs his man, and the curtain falls upon a clever capture of the real criminal.

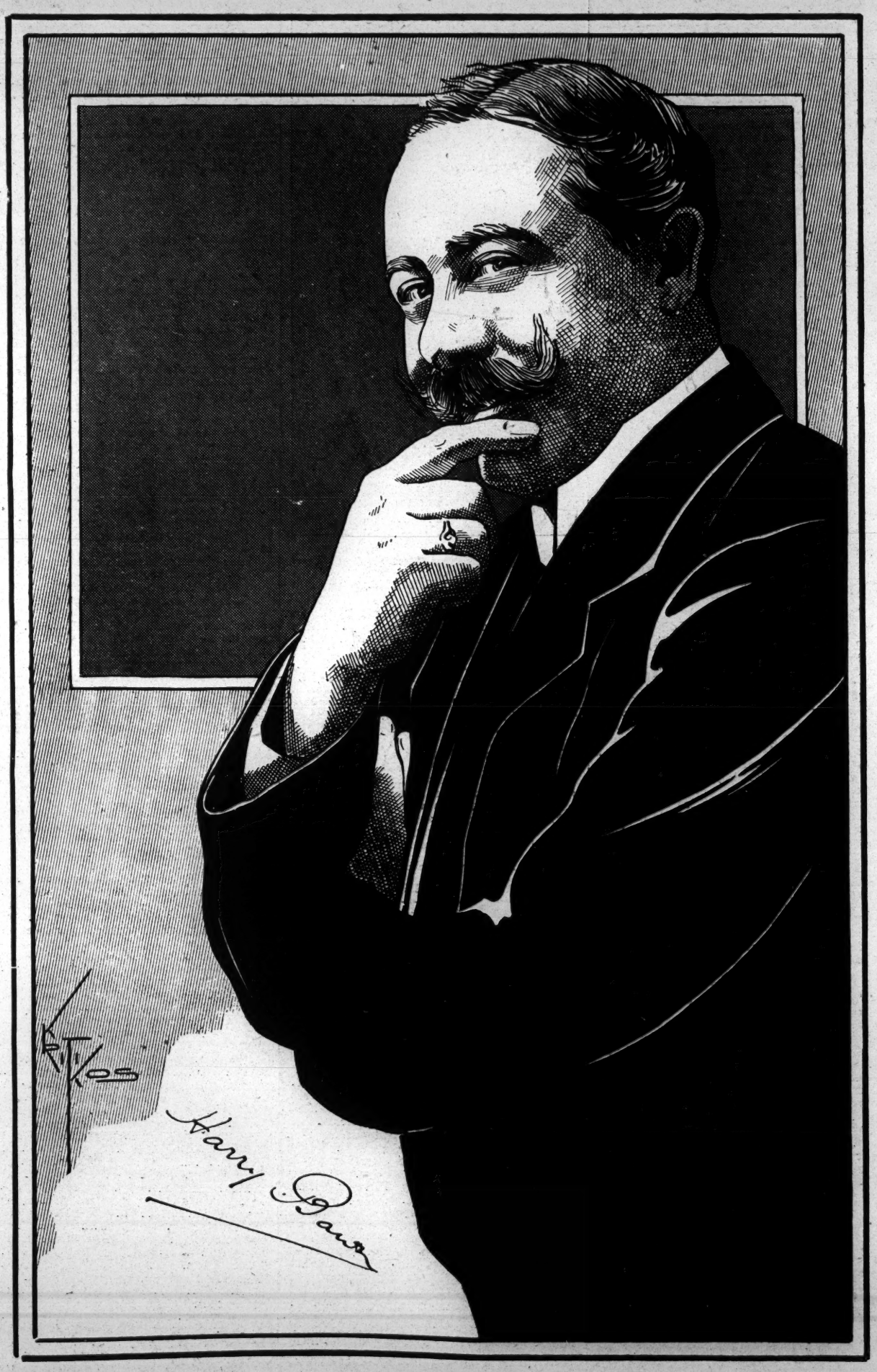
Mr. Cyril H. Sworder acts with quiet firmness and genuine strength as the unfortunate James Fletcher. Mr. Roland Pertwee realises the desperation of the murderer Trayton Burleigh, but the character might be strengthened with a little more show of remorse. Mr. Richard Norton is especially good as the Burglar, and Mr. Lancelot Lowder's Sergeant of Police has the correct official manner and decisiveness. The sketch was very favourably received, and deserves a long run.

SCOTS COMEDIAN DEAD.

The death has taken place at his home in Gullane, of Mr. William Crawford, the well-known Scots comedian. He had attained the age of seventy-two and had been in retirement for some years. He was very well-known all over Scotland, where for many years he toured with his own company. His wife, well-known on the concert platform as Miss Elizabeth Hunter, a talented soprano, survives him; also his son, Mr. Clifton Crawford, who has made a big hit in America as a musical comedy artiste.

EDMONTON EMPIRE.

For the nonce Mr. Harry Bawn, at his popular Edmonton house, reverts this week to drama, and produces "The Great Detective," by Mr. C. Douglas Carlile, who sustains the principal part of Martin Dare in a manner that redounds greatly to his credit, his various disguises proving his ability to portray character studies of varied personalities. The play is produced this week in three acts, and gives very much more scope for the proper carrying out of the theme than that presented when it is "boiled down" to a half-hour limit. Miss Carlotta de Yonson gives a lifelike study of Sal Williams. In fact, it may well be said that this talented ladys plays the part as to the manner born. Mr. Lee Gilbert as Tatters, Martin Dare's assistant, is really excellent. Foster, "the old 'un," finds a capital exponent in Mr. Chas. A. Carlile, and Mr. H. Daneville as Vernon, the swell, is reminiscent of Mr. E. S. Willard as the tiger in "The Silver King," and when we say this we can give no greater praise. Mr. Alfred Jones as Jim the Smasher does everything that is asked of him in the part. The Bodger of Mr. Gerald Blake stands out prominently as a very clever piece of character acting. Mr. Geo. Carlton is well cast in the part of Inspector Scott of Scotland Yard, and is ably assisted by Mr. Fred Resham as his subordinate, P.C. Watson. Mrs. Bolton, Dare's housekeeper, is in the able hands of Miss Georgie Steed, and the Claire Vernon of Miss Nina Green is most excellently portrayed. The parts of Bell Thompson, Bickering, Murphey, Stubbins, and Smiff are respectively done ample justice to by Messrs. Jed Gerald, Walton Brothers, Alf. Gosnall, Alex Walters, and Frank Emptage; and finally we must not forget to make honourable mention of Dirk, Dare's dog, by "himself." Incidental music is discoursed most harmoniously by Mr. Max Reinhardt and his merry men, and Mr. Herbert P. Ainsley and Mr. Walter Norman both wear the smile that won't come off when they view the packed houses.



MR. HARRY BAWN.

Starting his career in a West End business house, Mr. Harry Bawn found the routine dull. He then went on to the Variety stage as a coster comedian, and at one time bade fair to rival Gus Elen and Albert Chevalier. He, however, quenched any such ambition by crossing the footlights to the business side of the halls to become the Kaiser of Vaudeville and the successful producer of Yiddish Drama and Opera in London.

A ST. VALENTINE'S VAUDEVILLE.

An entertainment, arranged by Miss Floyd Ariston and Mrs. Albert Bradshaw, and entitled "A St. Valentine's Vaudeville," was held for the benefit of the Children's Dinner Fund and the London Vegetarian Association at the King's Hall, Covent Garden, on Saturday. The programme was an exceptionally long one, and a late start did not facilitate matters. During the evening two one-act plays, "After Good-night," by H. G. Willis, and "The Experiment," by Mrs. Albert S. Bradshaw, and a rag-time entertainment arranged by Miss Ariston, entitled "A Masque of St. Valentine," were introduced. Also was performed a new farcical episode, in one scene, by H. G. Willis, entitled

"AFTER GOOD-NIGHT."

Mrs. Runnimeade .. Mrs. E. Waldemar-Leverton
Nina Runnimeade ..... Miss Daisy Nunn
Marjory Thorn ..... Miss Edith Parker
Rev. George Weyland .. Mr. Eric H. Albury
Dr. Frank Hudson ..... Mr. Ewart Scott
Susan ..... Miss Isabel Christison

From a slender story and a few slim situations the author of "After Good-night" succeeds in giving us a diverting trifle of some merit. All the trouble arises through Mrs. Runnimeade reading a marriage announcement without her glasses, and this trouble falls upon the Rev. George Weyland, and in a lesser degree upon Marjory Thorn. The curate has been paying his attentions to Mrs. Runnimeade's daughter, so that the lady is naturally somewhat annoyed to read of the reverend gentleman's marriage to Miss Thorn. She is further incensed by the fact that though the couple are coming down to spend the week-end with her on her house-boat they have not informed her of their marriage. The number of sleeping cabins on the boat is limited. There are just enough to go round, presuming that the "newlyweds" share the same room. There is quite a breezy piece of comedy when Miss Thorn prepares to retire—in the dark—the curate having previously installed himself in the room. Of course, Mrs. Runnimeade had misread the wedding paragraph, the correct announcement reading that the Rev. George Weyland had assisted at the marriage of a Miss Marjory Thornton. The "ton" at the end of the lady's name having been carried over the next line, had escaped Mrs. Runnimeade's notice. Hence the curate, in giving up his room to the lady, has to "shake down" in the sitting-room until the household is aroused and the matter explained. The author deals with a "risqué" incident in a delightful and entirely satisfactory manner, but beyond this the piece lacks the strong situations looked for in the popular farces of the day.

On Saturday the characters were well sustained. Mr. Eric H. Albury sensibly played the curate with less burlesque than is usually so objectionably associated with characters of this description, and as Mrs. Runnimeade Mrs. E. Waldemar-Leverton emphasised the comedy of the part to its fullest extent. Miss Edith Parker made a vivacious Marjory, and Miss Daisy Nunn both looked and acted charmingly as Nina. Mr. Ewart Scott and Miss Isabel Christison were both excellent in their respective parts. Another new item was a one-act play, by Mrs. Albert S. Bradshaw, called

"THE EXPERIMENT."

Willie Wendover ..... Mr. Frank Hills
Hetty ..... Mrs. Albert Bradshaw
Melier Ann Honeydew .. Miss Ruth Wallace

This piece deals with one of the experiences of Hetty Wendover, a philanthropic crank. She engages a coster girl as a domestic, and her and her husband's efforts to treat the newcomer as their social equal end disastrously. The production was remarkable for a wonderful character impersonation by Miss Ruth Wallace, who, as the coster, kept the house in sustained merriment. Mrs. Albert Bradshaw and Mr. Frank Hills maintained the excellence of a well-acted and thoroughly enjoyable trifle.

"A Masque of St. Valentine," written and composed by Mr. Neil Erskine, proved an entertaining rag-time riot. In three scenes, it served to introduce many known and new examples of syncopated music. Among those who took part in the production were Miss Floyd Ariston, Miss Ella Ross, Mrs. F. H. Skrine, Miss Lester, Miss M. Stoll, Miss D. Gibbon, Mrs. Hayden Coffin, Miss Alma Hagen, Miss Vera Allen, Miss Mary Pitcairn, Miss Esme Goodman, and Messrs. José Calton, Adrian Gordon, MacHenry Thomas, Reginald Masters, Frank Hills, Neil Erskine, Leslie Baerselman, Vernon Shairp, Bew Hawes-Wilson, Arthur Eagles, C. Kurthoff, A. A. Lindo, and Frank Hill.

During the evening the programme was also contributed to by Princess Irene de Avierino Wiszniewska, Kherla Kinuk, Miss Henriquette Maude—who, with some clever character impressions, and a charming little song, much delighted the audience—Mrs. Albert Bradshaw, Miss Floyd Ariston, Signor Belpassi, Mr. Frank Hills, Mr. E. Thornley-Dodge, and Mr. Leo Cohnreich.

MUSIC HALL EXPLOSION.

Early on Sunday morning a police-constable was passing the pit entrance to the Empire, South Shields, and on entering the building found Mr. George Pottinger, stage-manager, staggering in a dazed condition from the door leading to the pit-stalls. He was severely burned about the hands and face. He said there was another man in the building, and the officer found Thomas Oates, the electrician, lying over a rail in an unconscious condition. He also was badly burned. Both men were removed to the infirmary, where Pottinger was detained in consequence of the serious nature of his injuries. Oates, after being medically treated, was conveyed to his home.

The men, after the audience and artistes had left late on Saturday night, went round the building to see if all was right, when they smelt an escape of gas. They entered a small room at the side of the pit, and Oates struck a match, when an explosion took place. Both men were thrown to the floor with great force. It was afterwards found that a gas bracket had been wrenched from the wall by someone, and the place had been filled with gas.

Athlone and Sinclair have opened up in Africa on the Amalgamated Circuit with great success at Cape Town and East London.

Miss Dolly Ross, the charming Dick Whittington of Richard Nightingale's pantomime, has just secured the sole rights of a new number, "Barney, my blarney stone," words and music by Bert. H. Delmar.

Ernie Mayne has another song in study, "Peter Piper," from the pen of Bert H. Delmar. This author, whose work is always in demand, is busy in potted plays, concerteds, &c., for Richard Nightingale's Ranchers, the Excelsiors, Militaires, Larques, and other popular parties

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Miss Gertie Gordon, an ideal principal boy, is scoring most successfully in Jack Arnold's pantomime as Aladdin at the Imperial Palace, Canning Town, this week. Her rendering of "Come round and hear the gramaphone" and "My heart is with you to-night" proves at once the clever and versatile artiste she is.

"IT" THE HIT IN AUSTRALIA.

RICKARDS' OPERA HOUSE

MY FANCY

THE WORLD'S GREATEST DANCER

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MY FANCY

after a successful starring engagement of 3 weeks Adelaide, 4 weeks Melbourne, 5 weeks Sydney, with Mr. Macintosh (Rickards' Tour) now on her way to South Africa. Opens March 17. Sydney Hyman time. Many thanks to everyone for a most comfortable engagement, also to Mr. Macintosh for offer to tour New Zealand.

Return England June: Varieties Controlling Theatres. MOSS, STOLL, GULLIVER TOURS, &c., to follow.

All communications—

HARRY BAWN, 18, Adam Street, W.C.

"THE SAINT AND THE SINNER."

Dramatic Episode, Produced at the Euston Palace on Monday, Feb. 17.

The Man .....Mr. Alfred Woods
The Woman .....Miss Maud Williamson
The Saint .....Mr. G. Mayor Cook
The Sinner .....Miss Dorothy Esmond Woods
The Hypocrite .....Mr. James Saunders
The Profligate .....Mr. Cyril Delevanti

The slight story of this admirably written and acted, if not very convincing, playlet, may be soon told. A hospital nurse having been betrayed by a wealthy blackguard, a meeting of the committee of the hospital is called to investigate the matter. The distressed girl, judged by the hypocritical chaplain and two or three inhuman members of the board, is told she has disgraced her calling and expelled the hospital. She, however, has at least two good friends in a broad-minded young curate and the kindly and outspoken matron, and the former gives the chaplain and his associates a very uncomfortable ten minutes when the nurse and the matron have departed. If the girl is to be expelled, what punishment is to be meted out to her betrayer, asks the curate. But as the cad who is responsible for her shame is a rich patron of the hospital he is not even to be censured. Thereupon the curate, in a long and outspoken tirade, denounces the chaplain and his associates for their hypocrisy and callous conduct. A sketch out of the ordinary, and, judging by its enthusiastic reception on the night of our visit, one that unmistakably appeals to a popular audience. The actor who portrayed the rôle of the outspoken curate is to be commended for his excellent delivery of the long speech to which reference has been made, a feat of oratory which was loudly acclaimed. The part of the nurse was delicately handled; and the kindly matron was capitally played.

SHEPHERD'S BUSH EMPIRE.

One is used to a really fine programme at the Shepherd's Bush Empire, but it is seldom that one has found so attractive and pleasantly varied a bill as that of this week. With such a number of excellent turns, one may be thought to run the risk of making invidious distinctions in selecting those for first mention, so in order to avoid this we will take the ladies first, and deal with them in quite haphazard fashion. A fact that no member of the sterner sex, who is in the slightest degree susceptible to the charms of a pretty girl, can fail to overlook, when witnessing the Shepherd's Bush show this week, is what an unusual number of really attractive ladies appear in it. Taking them in the order in which they are on the programme, we have Miss Gertie Hall and Miss Bessie Knight, both fresh from their triumphs in the pantomime at the Lyric, Hammersmith; Miss Daisie Taylor, the extremely pretty little Scottish comedienne and dancer; and Miss Olive Armidale, the dainty soubrette; to say nothing of the charming lady in the Lynn and Leslie combination, and the several attractive lady members of the Elliott-Savonas.

It is, indeed, a programme that, at all events, delights the eyes of the susceptible masculine portion of the audience. But it does much more than that. Miss Gertie Hall sings an extremely good number, entitled "Melinda"; and Miss Bessie Knight, who wears a lounge suit as though "to the manner born," has a fine song in "Money talks." After their individual appearances, these two ladies join forces, and sing the rag-time duet with which they were so successful at the Lyric, entitled "The Texas Tommy swing." Miss Daisy Taylor has a couple of really delightful items in "Sandy, take hold of my hand," and "I'm coming back to bonnie Scotland," appearing in a different kilt costume for each song, and dancing very cleverly. Miss Olive Armidale's number is called "When the sands of life run low," and is a good sentimental item, which has a pleasing refrain, and proves very much to the taste of the audience.

Lynn and Leslie, "the frisky duo in frivolities," provide an amusing quart d'heure of the medley variety; and Green and Wood are supremely clever as comedy acrobats, with their business with a table and a dozen or so chairs. Harry Grey, the Australian nugget, is a comedian whom we do not remember to have seen at this popular hall before, but he made the audience laugh so much that he may be sure that he will be remembered and his early return anticipated with eagerness.

The Schwarz Brothers, with their splendid sketch, "The Broken Mirror," have, of course, not the slightest difficulty in keeping the audience literally rocking with laughter. "The Broken Mirror" is certainly one of the cleverest and most amusing acts on the music hall stage. To wind up with (except for the Bioscope showing a good film, Bunny at the Derby), we have the famous Elliott-Savonas and their "Palace of Orphens." These wonderful people have, of course, a deservedly world-wide reputation, and one need only say that the splendid staging of their act, and their magnificent playing, "holds" the audience at Shepherd's Bush as it has done thousands of others, and, it is to be hoped, will do thousands more. Congratulations to Mr. Iles, the acting-manager, on his "top-hole" programme.

LONDON BALLAD CONCERTS.

In striking contrast to the prevailing gloom and darkness on Saturday afternoon last was the enthusiasm of the large audience assembled at the Royal Albert Hall, the occasion being the last but one of the present series of Ballad Concerts organised by Messrs. Boosey & Co. As usual, a very generous programme was provided, the bright particular star in a galaxy of talent being Miss Felice Lyne, the charming young prima donna from Hammerstein's Opera House, who chose for her first item the popular shadow song from Meyerbeer's "Dinorah," to which full justice was done, being ably accompanied on the flute by Mr. George Ackroyd. On her reappearance she gave "When love was kind," and an excellent rendition of "Bird of love divine." Needless to say, she received an immense reception, finally retiring amidst ringing cheers. Miss Ella Caspers repeated an old favourite in "Dennis darlin'," in which her pure contralto voice was heard to advantage. There was also much to admire in Miss Maggie Kirkbridge's rendering of "When you come home." A very warm greeting was accorded Mr. Harry Dearth, who introduced a new song, by Eric Coates, entitled "A dinner courtship," which he sang in his usual rollicking style, and to which nothing short of a double encore would satisfy his delighted hearers. The words are set to a catchy melody, and the song should quickly become a popular favourite. The Westminster Singers gave three admirable quartettes from their well-known répertoire, and were heartily applauded. Others who contributed to a programme of all-round excellency included Miss Fifine de la Cote, who possesses a soprano voice of great power and beauty; Mr. Ivor Walters, Mr. Ivor Foster, Mr. Gwynne Davies, and Mr. Haydn Wood with some capital violin solos. Mr. Liddle and Mr. Sewell ably accompanied.

"The Czar's Bracelet," which was announced for production at the Holborn Empire last Monday, was not put on in the second performance on Monday evening, when our representative visited the house.

MOSS' EMPIRES' REPORT.

A SUCCESSFUL YEAR.

Mr. William Houlding, who presided at the annual meeting of the Moss' Empires, held at Edinburgh, on Monday, said that he could congratulate the shareholders on a very successful year's trading. This was attributable to the prosperity the country had enjoyed, and also to the exceptionally wet summer. The economies which had been previously so successfully introduced had also contributed to their prosperity. The overdraft to the bank had disappeared from the balance-sheet, provision had been made for alterations and renewals of the company's properties, and large sums had been spent on electrical renewal and equipment, which the directors had decided to defray out of revenue.

He might sum up the situation by stating that the accounts showed that the property was a sound and valuable one. Given good conditions as regarded weather and trade the company could earn as much money as ever. During the last six or seven years considerable additions had been made to the property and assets without adding to the capital account. Many economies had been effected, but on the other hand artistes' salaries continued to increase.

In the course of the meeting Mr. Frank Allen, managing-director of Moss' Empires, made the following brief speech:—

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,—I should like to take this opportunity of thanking my colleagues for electing me their managing-director, and you may rest assured that their confidence in me will not be abused. I shall do all in my power to guide your interests and uphold the best traditions of a business that I have been associated with for so many of the best years of my life under the careful guidance and advice of my late respected chief, Sir Edward Moss, one of the greatest showmen of his day, and whose death we all so greatly deplored. It is unnecessary for me to dwell upon the present condition of our business, as you all know what a successful year we have had, but I would just like to mention by the way that so far as the present year has gone the state of things is most satisfactory, and as regards the future, with the loyal support of a most excellent board, and the able assistance of our secretary, accountants and staff, I have not the slightest fear of the results.

After some criticism the report was adopted. Some discussion took place over the reappointment of Messrs. Gillespie Brothers, Newcastle, as auditors, at a fee of £960, but eventually the motion was carried.

At a subsequent extraordinary meeting a resolution was submitted providing that each director should be paid at the rate of £500 per annum, and the chairman such additional remuneration, not exceeding £500 per annum, as the directors might from time to time determine. Considerable discussion took place, and an amendment was moved, but eventually the resolution was declared carried unanimously.

"THE CRYSTALS."

A Miniature Magical Play, Written by David Devant, and Produced at the St. George's Hall on Tuesday, Feb. 18, 1913.

Richard Bulwell ..... } Mr. David Devant
Signor Ombrozio ..... }
Captain Robert Braintree ..Mr. Arthur Burne
Nora Braintree ..... Miss Muriel Dole
Mrs. Michelmas .... Miss Nina Westerleigh
Dyson ..... Mr. William Mayne

The return of Mr. David Devant from his successful tour has been signalised at St. George's Hall by the production of this interesting and entertaining magical playlet, written and produced by the master magician himself. The story is a simple one of a lover who sees through a window his lady embracing a stranger, and goes away in a fit of jealousy for years. Returning a successful man, he is anxious to find if the girl is still true. Posing as a magician, he secures the attendance of the lady, and by reproducing the old window scene in his magic crystals, finds that all is well.

Mr. Devant is seen at his best in this production, both as an actor and mystery worker, and he is ably supported by Miss Muriel Dole in the part of the fiancée. It is a source of wonderment that the scenes depicted in the three large crystals are performed by actual actors and actresses. At the conclusion, however, Mr. Devant himself, as he puts it, "goes into the crystal" and does anything the audience asks.

The other items in the evening's entertainment include such old favourites as Mr. Charles Hera, a juggler still of unsurpassed ability; while Mr. Arthur Helmore was highly acceptable in "Arbitrary Language," an amusing recitation. Mention must also be made of Mr. Stuart Debnam, who entertained an appreciative audience with songs at the piano and one or two amusing anecdotes. The enjoyable nature of the programme is complete with the mystery of "The Fallen Idol," an Indian god's adventures. Miss Winifred Beech and Mr. Arthur Burne deserve special mention, if any particular artistes can be selected from an excellent cast.

FRONTIERSMEN AT BIRMINGHAM EMPIRE.

Mr. W. H. Bebby and his committee are to be warmly complimented upon the success of the matinée at the Empire, Birmingham, on Wednesday in aid of the local military veterans. The programme consisted of forty-seven turns, many of the leading lights of the variety stage appearing.

The members of the Legion of Frontiersmen assembled in the Old-square and marched to the Empire, under the command of Colonel D. P. Driscoll, D.S.O., the other officers present being Captain-Surgeon Malverley, Lieutenant Kennedy McGregor, the Rev. A. G. Maitland (chaplain), Lieutenant H. E. Cleveland (Acting-Adjutant), and Lieutenant R. O. Hughes.

During an interval in the performance Mr. W. J. Clarke, the secretary of the Association, thanked the Lord Mayor (Lieut.-Colonel E. Martineau) and the Lady Mayoress for favouring the event with their presence. He also thanked the Moss' Empires, Ltd., for allowing the use of the building, and Mr. W. H. Bebby, the manager, who had played an important part in promoting the event.

The Lord Mayor, in returning thanks, said that their gratitude went out to these old soldiers who had done so much for their country in the past, and the hearts of all were with them in their old age.

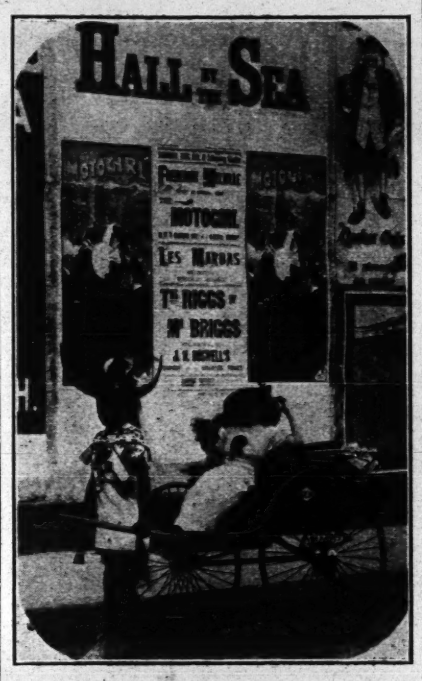
At the manager's invitation twenty-five of the veterans were entertained to tea at Fletcher's Café, Corporation-street.

Always kind-hearted and generous, Mr. Leon Salberg has invited several thousand crippled children to witness his successful pantomime, "Robinson Crusoe," at the Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, on Friday afternoon, March 7. The staff and artistes are giving their services.

What is the "Texas Tommy"? our readers are asking. They can find out for themselves if they pay a visit to the Oxford and see that joyous production, "Ragmania," and watch Ben Zellar and Bonny Browning dance. When they get acquainted, they will talk of the originality of American eccentric movement to the accompaniment of syncopated melody.

THE WONDERFUL MOTOGIRL.

A big holiday audience assembled in the Hall-by-the-Sea last evening, and witnessed one of the brightest and most entertaining programmes that has ever come to this neighbourhood. Not only was the "bill of fare" well up to the highwater-mark of its predecessors, but the vaudeville section included an unusually large variety of novelties, which made the entertainment all the more interesting and enjoyable. At a very early hour every seat in the big hall had been claimed, and for over two hours the new programme went with a merry swing, and the enthusiastic demonstrations that succeeded each item stamped the entertainment as one of exceptional merit. Described in other parts of the globe as the sensation of Europe and America, the amazing Motogirl came to the Hall last night to provide one of the leading features in this week's new bill. Since the automaton has been no stranger to Hall audiences of late, acts of this description being still fresh in the memory, no doubt a big proportion of last night's house looked for an act with a good deal of sameness about it. But a pleasant surprise was in store for the sceptical, for the audience last night made its acquaintance with one of the cleverest and most bewildering turns that has ever skipped across the Hall stage. Described in the programme as Mr. Frederick Melville's "puzzling enigma," the Motogirl has rather



MOTOGIRL IN SOUTH AFRICAN RICKSHAW.

an original introduction. This is done by means of a Bioscope film, which shows the "doll" in the workshop of a mechanic, and sold, and the picture and the actual production on the stage are so cleverly blended that it assists to no inconsiderable extent in carrying out a remarkable illusion. Following up the scene in the workshop, where the Motogirl is turned out and sold by the mechanic, the curtain goes up, and the audience gazes on the "real thing." She is discovered on the stage in an electrically-lighted cabinet, and is to all appearances a huge mechanical doll. Mr. Melville then manipulates, or appears to manipulate, the machinery which seemingly controls the movements of the doll, which proceeds to move its head, arms, and legs in a manner made familiar to us by the ordinary mechanical doll. The Motogirl then indulges in shaking a tambourine, and plays a violin just in doll-like fashion. It is then taken among the audience, trotting up the aisle shaking hands with anyone who feels like making a closer acquaintance with this mysterious yet beautiful doll-lady. Mr. Melville carries "it" to and from the stage as if carrying an ordinary piece of wood weighing about 20lb. Back on the boards a couple of youths each have a successful try to lift the Motogirl, and Mr. Melville passes a sword seemingly through the doll's body. The Motogirl proceeds to play pranks on one of the astonished lads, and then, to the amazement of the house, the Motogirl resolves itself from an apparent bundle of steel and charged wires into a warm-coloured blonde, who breathes, smiles, and flashes big blue eyes on the enchanted house, and only at this—the conclusion of a wonderful illusion, when the Motogirl becomes a human being, and smilingly says, "Thank you, ladies and gentlemen"—is the audience relieved of any doubt as how to answer the query: "Is it a beautiful woman or a beautiful doll?" A toy which acts as a woman is far less wonderful than a woman who can act as a toy for ten or fifteen minutes, and maintain her disguise in the midst of the audience, never revealing the fact that her ribs are not steel, her limbs not wax, and her every movement not mechanical. It is worthy of note that the Motogirl has been touring the world for the past ten years, and among the many distinctions that have come her way was that, four years ago, she had the honour of appearing before the late King Edward and Queen Alexandra at Buckingham Palace. On that occasion her performance was given on the lawn in broad daylight, without any stage accessories whatever. It is a perplexing and interesting performance, which should have the effect of drawing big houses nightly to the Hall for the remainder of the week.—"The Natal Mercury," Durban, South Africa, Tuesday, Aug. 6, 1912.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(Continued from page 9.)

PENRITH.

ALHAMBRA.—P., Messrs. W. Forrester and Sons.—This week: Lack and Ford, Wee Ella Fields, and pictures. Next week, Gertie Gascoyne's Dapper Dandy Girl, Petro and Leon, etc.

PENTRE.

GRAND THEATRE.—P., Mr. W. E. Willis; M., Mr. James Gunn.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Geo. Bowes presents "The Forty Thieves." The cast includes: Misses Emmie King, Jehann D'Arc, Gladys Edwards, Connie St. John, Nelly Hinks, Rosie Powell, Lily Stoddart, Flossie St. John, Rosie Gandy, Betty Vernon, Cissie Hopkins, Millie Davies, Josie Gunnell, Flo Kemble, Cissie Evans, Flo Ford, Jessie Hambrook, Messrs. Chas. Towers, Sid Vance, Ted Freeling, P. Mayne, and Will Parkin (the producer). Specialities are given by the Four Scoreys, Trix and Trixie, the Roneos, Palmyra, Mavis and Mavis, J. H. Howard, the Zeimars, and Little Tom Noddy. Next week: "Man to Man."

WORKMEN'S HALL.—M., Mr. H. Salway; M. D., Mr. Joe Leslie.—This week (twice nightly): Gibbon Bell Trio; Silent Tait and Aimee; and pictures. Matinée, Wednesday, 11 a.m.

PENZANCE.

PAVILION.—P., The Cornish Riviera Entertainments Co., Ltd.; M., Mr. Frederic Dale.—This week: Mr. Hickman Smith's Royal Entertainers, including the Misses Marie Westcott, Ethel Wilford, Messrs. Hickman Smith, H. J. Rowland, and Edward Honeyman. On Friday afternoon the Plymouth Royal Artillery Band were advertised to give their third symphony concert.

PICTUREDROME.—P., Mr. Harry Burrows; M., Mr. Dick Trembath.—This week: The Hungaria Trio, and pictures.

PERTH.

PERTH THEATRE.—P. & M., Mr. J. H. Savile; R. M., Mr. Chas. Boult.—This week: The Perth Amateur Opera company, in "The Gondoliers."

EMPIRE.—This week (twice nightly): J. K. McFarlane, comedian; and pictures.

PETERBOROUGH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. and M., Lieut.-Col. J. A. Winstanley; A. M., Mr. A. Lake-Fry.—This week: Mr. Alfred Gray's company in "The Amazons." The company includes: Messrs. Rule Pyott, Alfred Gray, Campbell Cargill, Laurence Meade, Eric Bass, A. Hardy, James Clifford, Misses Helen Ingelow, Dorothy Radcliffe, Irene Clarke, V. Malcolm-Barnett, and Muriel Locking.

HIPPODROME.—L., Messrs. Hawkins and Frank; M., Mr. F. Hawkins.—This week: Marquis and Truly, the acrobatic grotesque and chic soubrette; Florence Carle, comedienne; Hugo, in comedy bar act; Sharon, trick instrumentalist; Charles Denton, comedian; Scott and Black, in vocal and dancing act; and pictures.

PLYMOUTH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—D., Mr. J. M. Glover; A. M., Mr. Allan Attwater.—This week: Mr. Louis Meyer's Co., in "The Glad Eye." Lawrence Robbins, Alfred Drayton, Frank Bradley, Robert Entwistle, Leslie Kyle, G. Pedgrift, Stanley Groome, H. W. Hewlett, H. Conyers, Marguerite Cellier, Lilian Christine, Phyllis Stuckey, Mona Meyer. Preceded each evening by "The Tatlers." Next week: Mr. Forbes Robertson's farewell visit.

GRAND THEATRE.—L. & M., Mr. J. Langdon Lee.—This week (twice nightly): Travis Green's production, "Queen of the Redskins." The company includes: Mr. Jerrold Heather, Mr. Horace Booth, Mr. T. R. Nugent, Mr. Frank Litchfield, Mr. Edward Maples, Mr. Lionel Moore, Mr. Sam Edwards, Mr. Arthur C. Russell, Miss Clara Oakes, Miss Christine Murray, Miss Jessie Campbell, Miss Amy Maitland, Miss Hilda Shirley. Next week: "The Exploits of Parker, P.C."

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—L. & M., Mr. Walter de Frece; M., Mr. G. F. Thompson.—This week: Marie Lloyd; the Darlows, comedy entertainers; Edna Zora and company, in song scena, assisted by Carl Rossina at piano; John and Lilian Grand, in playlet, "At Home and Abroad"; Society Quartette, unique vaudeville artistes; Herbert la Martine, introducing staircase dance; the Five Juggling Breens; and Sam Stern, in character studies.

PONTEFRACT.

ALEXANDRA.—L., Mr. George Tankard.—This week (once nightly): Matthew H. Glenville and Fred Osmond's company in "The Still Alarm." The company includes: Mr. Vernon Fortescue, Mr. Geo. Gaisford, Mr. Edward Hobart, Mr. Richard Hutton, Mr. Vincent Harvey, Mr. Lewis Gordon, Mr. George Organ, Mr. Bernard Ince, Mr. Henry Smith, Mr. Jack Topping, Mr. William Edwards, Mr. Eddie Tudor, Mr. Harry Johnson, Mr. Tom Varney, Mr. George Francis, the greyhound "Laddie," Miss Mabel Veriton, Miss Dorothy Hildebrande, and Miss Margaret Frame.

PONTYPRIDD.

NEW THEATRE.—Sole P., Messrs. Trenchard and Jones; M., Mr. Charles Trenchard.—This week: Messrs. C. Adolph Seebold and Matt Melrose's pantomime, "Aladdin." The cast includes: Miss Lalla Melrose, Miss Rita Moya, Mr. Matt Melrose, Miss May Bechstein, Miss Nina Bechstein, Miss Renee Ashley, Mr. Fisher Jones, Mr. Tom Maynard, Mr. Leslie Conway, Mr. Barrie Burns, Mr. Alf Jerome, and Mr. Perce Jerome.

LARGE TOWN HALL.—P., Mr. John G. Wood; R. M., Mr. Mason.—This week: Mr. Cyril Melrose, vocalist; and pictures.

WHITE PALACE.—P., The White Palaces, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. Albert R. Josty.—This week: Miss Dora Davies; and pictures.

PORTH.

PALACE THEATRE.—L., Mr. Will Smithson; M., Mr. J. W. Bynorth; Mus. D., Mr. G. Stephens.—This week: Pasquali Brothers; Kitty Carlton; and pictures.

PORTSMOUTH.

ROYAL.—Licensee and M., Mr. J. W. Boughton; A. M., Mr. Arthur A. Horner.—There was a crowded and delighted audience on Monday night, when Mr. Forbes-Robertson opened the week of his farewell visit here with "Hamlet." Seldom here do we have the opportunity of witnessing such finished acting, and enjoying such a perfect rendering of the historic character. Mr. Robertson was admirably supported by Miss Gertrude Elliott, whose artistic performance of Ophelia won warm admiration. A capital impersonation of the Queen was given by Miss Adeline Bourne, and a natural Polonius was seen in Mr. Athol Forde, the remainder of the cast being exceptionally efficient. The scenic effects and setting reflected credit on the stage management of Mr. Alexander Casey. "The Light That Failed," "Passing of the Third Floor Back," and "Mice and Men" are included in the week's repertory.

KING'S.—Licensee and M., Mr. J. W. Boughton; A. M., Mr. Arthur R. Hollands.—Topping the bill here is the world-famous handcuff king, Houdini, who introduces his newest mystery of liberating himself after being locked in a "water torture cell," while standing on his head, with ankles clamped and otherwise secured. The act aroused great enthusiasm. Several additional handcuff and strait-jacket feats win applause. May Erne and Erne Chester present a unique simultaneous musical and dancing act; an amusing playlet, "An Amateur Anarchist," is presented by Carter Livesey, assisted by Zerlina Harrington; Tom E. Hughes is responsible for some humorous character studies; the Four Durhams exhibit their skill with musical instruments; Hunter and Bob create plenty of fun in their pantomimic comedy act; Van Bern and the Swansons also contribute to the general success.

PRINCE'S.—Licensee and M., Mr. J. W. Boughton.—The thrilling drama, "The Collier's Lass," is presented in fine style by Mr. J. Newton Cowling's company. The plot is founded on a story of the great coal strike, and the romance of the abduction of a collier's lass and her ultimate restoration to her parents and lover is ably portrayed by a talented company of artistes.

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Walter de Frece; R. M., Mr. George Harris.—Foremost this week is Arthur Prince, "the prince of ventriloquists," who presents the first three nights of the week "The Sailor Boy" scene, the droll conversation convulsing those present; the latter part of the week "The Jockey's Dream" is the pièce de résistance. Another important turn is the Monkey Music Hall; the Four Sisters Ruby show wonderful agility as acrobats, contortionists, and dancers; Jean Harkness and Philip Leslie act capitally in the comedy sketch, "The Key of the Situation"; smart patter and good music are provided by Will Van Allen; Geo. Prince is the author and composer of the songs he sings; Minnie Mace is a bright comedienne; and the Now Macs are clever fun makers.

EMPIRE PALACE.—M. D., Captain E. H. Warren Wright; S., Mr. W. Pratt.—Albert Whelan, the talented raconteur, heads the list; a sextette of shapely poseurs present Angela's Statuary with every success; the Warsaw Brothers present a clever mixture of melody and mimicry. Polly and Day, in the "Crazy Waltz"; Irene Rose, character comedienne; Darcie and Mori, in a comedy, vocal and dancing speciality; Fred Lennox, light comedian; and Byden and Currie, with Bristles (the dog), also ably contribute.

SOUTH PARADE PIER.—M., Mr. F. G. Robson.—This week: Saturday, at 3, pianoforte recital by Wladimir Gernikoff, Russian pianist; Silvia Parisotti.

PRESTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—M., Mr. J. Alban Newton.—This week: Mr. Max Allen's company in "Hindle Wakes." The cast includes: Mr. Norman Clark, Miss Cecile E. Anson, Miss Helena Walbran, Mr. Ernest E. Imeson, Miss Kate Osborne, Mr. Stephen Wentworth, Mr. John Cecil, Miss Madge Trenchard, Miss Margaret Beck. Matinée, Thursday. Next week: Mr. Rutland Barrington and company in "Ways and Means."

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—P., Mr. E. H. Page; R. M., Mr. Chas. E. Clarkson; A. M., Mr. Albert J. Bolton.—This week: Mr. Hill-Mitcheson's company in "A Queen for a Wife." The cast includes: Messrs. E. A. Hill-Mitcheson, jun., Ernest Fosbrooke, Warwick Wellington, Michael Staples, Arthur Robinson, W. H. Garbois, Henry Armitage, Tom J. Taylor, Edward Cramon, W. Carpenter, H. Toms, Misses Flo French, Rosie Russell, Bennett, Alice Belmore. Thursday matinée.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—P., William Henry Broadhead and Son.—This week (twice nightly and matinées, Monday and Saturday, 2.30): H. O. Wills' company in "Forty Thieves." Cast includes: H. O. Wills, Lincoln Taylor, Matt. Morley, Rose Alderman, Nellie Townsend, Ralda Hall, Ben Ford, H. Esdale, R. Esdale, Sid Raymond, Fannie Holmshaw, Margaret Hunter, May Edney, Ada Fawn, T. M., Mr. Johnny Clegg.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. Edwin Bush; G. M., Mr. Alan W. Young; Mus. D., Mr. J. L. Dexter.—This week (twice nightly): Charles R. Whittle, comedian; Radford and Valentine, jugglers; Harry Claff and Alice Tremayne in "The White Knight"; Colley and Scott, comedians; Eunice and Zena, instrumentalists; J. H. Wakefield, coon delineator; Daisy Sloane, comedienne; J. A. Wilson and Dog, comedians; Williams and Parker; and pictures. Monday matinée.

NEW KING'S.—P., William Broadhead and Son.—This week (twice nightly): Marie Loftus; Lawrence Brough and Co., in "Confusion" (cast including Miss Olga Esme); Junora and Partner, acrobats; Tim Carlisle, comedian; Darnell and Co., in "The Real Magic Shop"; Ronald George, instrumentalist; the Glenroy Troupe, dancers; American Messenger Boys, singers and dancers.

RADCLIFFE.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—P., Mr. Geo. Testo Sante; M., Mr. C. Leslie Dryden.—This week (twice nightly and Saturday matinée, 2.30): George Hyatt, equilibrist; Marie St. John, vocalist; Wilson Robert's "Australian Larrikins"; Fred Mason, Hebrew comedian; the Zeenas, in comedy triple bar act; Lillie Villiers, singer and violinist; Matt Creevey (the human panther), champion jumper of the world; the Great La Razeka Trio, jugglers and acrobats; and pictures.

RAWTENSTALL.

GRAND THEATRE.—Sole L. and M., Mr. B. Pareezer; R. M., Mr. Archibald L. Pareezer.—This week: Mr. Chas. H. Lester's company, in "The Frontier Queen." The cast includes: Miss Beatrice Anderson, Miss Dorothy Riddell, Miss M. Majilton, Mr. Chas. H. Lester, Mr. Henry C. Gilpin, Mr. John Talford, Mr. Edward O'Grady, Mr. Alfred Powell, and Chief Brown Bear.

ROYAL PAVILION.—Sole P., Mr. Albert Winstanley.—This week: Nava and Minto, in musical sketch, "A Leap Year Proposal"; Miss Jean Alexander, mimic; pictures.

READING.

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—P. & M., Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton.—This week (twice nightly): G. H. Elliott, chocolate coloured coon; Two Brilliants, xylophonists; Harry Maxam, character comedian; Emelie Hayes, vocal comedienne; Jack White and company, in comedy sketch; the Original Excelsior Troupe, cyclists; pictures.

PALACE THEATRE.—P., Reading Palace Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. Jesse Sparrow; Mus. D., Mr. Fred Lake.—This week (twice nightly): Jesse L. Lasky Company presents "Detective Keen"; Rose Cabani, comedienne; Martini Trio, novelty acrobats; Morton and Elliott, paper manipulators; Frank Leedam, entertainer at the piano; Larola; the Royal Merry Four, comedians and dancers; pictures.

ROCHDALE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. W. Robinson; G. M., Mr. Otto C. Culling; R. M., Mr. Norman M. Robinson.—This week: Mr. George Dance's Co., in "Kismet." The company includes: Mr. Jas. Hughes, Mr. Fred Gage, Mr. Joseph Lynch, Mr. Arthur Mann, Mr. C. Hart, Mr. Norman St. George, Mr. Val Gulley, Mr. Frank Lester, Mr. H. H. Holles, Mr. Riddel Robinson, Miss Dorothy Whitaker, Miss Mora Collings, Miss Flo Sewel, Misses Louie May, Miss Enid South, Mr. Robert Gray, Mr. Cyril Griffiths, Mr. Jay Ellis, Mr. Ernest Miller, Mr. Leonard Mavis, Mr. Jack Kelly, Mr. H. Barber, Chung Lang, Mr. Philip Sefton, Miss Rene Challis, Miss Marion Hunt, Miss Madeline Rees, Mr. Harold Andrews, Miss Gwen Wheeland, Miss Jessie Hitter. Next week: "Pride of Byzantia."

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—P., The Jackson Family; M., Mr. Jas. Jackson, senr.—This week: O'Kabe Family of Japanese artistes; Rosie Rays, contralto vocalist; Ernest Krake and company of comedians, in "The Electric Tram Conductor"; Baker and Gee, two rag-time boys and their pianos; Renaud Lockwood and Co., in "Backing the Gee-Gees"; the Dennisons, singing and dancing duo; Six Donovans, in a musical act; and pictures.

PRINGLE'S EMPIRE.—S. L., Pringle's Picture Palaces, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Ralph Pringle; R. M., Mr. Jas. Pringle.—This week: Ivy Olwar, contralto; the Four Wagners, in a Continental comedy act; and pictures.

PALACE THEATRE.—P., The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. W. Robinson; G. M., Mr. Otto C. Culling; R. M., Mr. Norman M. Robinson.—This week: Vyo and Clar, musical artistes; Carson and Hill, comedians; and pictures.

ROTHERHAM.

ROYAL.—P., The North of England Theatre, Ltd.; G. M., Mr. Frank Macnaghten; R. M., Mr. John Dunbar; Mus. D., Mr. A. C. Harrison.—This week: Mr. W. W. Kelly's company in "A Royal Divorce." The cast includes: M. Juan Buonaparte, Mr. R. Eastern Pickering, Mr. George A. Brandham, Mr. George Howard, Mr. T. G. Bailey, Mr. W. Robins, Mr. Sam V. Lysons, Mr. Edward Longford, Mr. Lawton Orme, Mr. C. Jackson, Mr. P. Morris, Mr. J. Rigby, Mr. W. O'Connor, Miss Lilian Herries, Miss Clara Earle, Miss Kitty Wickstead, Miss Edith Bailey, Miss Agnes Zambuhl, Miss M. Robinson, Miss Marie Johns, Miss Helen Meadows, and Miss Violet Ellicott.

HIPPODROME.—P., The Rotherham Hippodrome, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. George E. Smith; G. M., Mr. Claude Shayler; R. M., Mr. William Pearson; Mus. D., Mr. J. Millar.—This week: Roland, illusionist; the Lacori Family, trapezeists; Mora and Lola, musical eccentrics; George Caselli, light comedian and dancer; Will Douglas and company of Merry Demons; Royde and Villiers, in a vocal and comedy act, "The Recruiting Sergeant and the Dandy"; and May Newall, vocalist.

RUGBY.

VINT'S NEW HIPPODROME AND THEATRE.—P., Mr. Leon Vint; G. M., Mr. Arthur Brogden.—This week: Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company is presenting "The Wild Girl of the Forest." The company includes: Mr. John D. Riley, Mr. Geo. E. Butler, Mr. John Stuart, Mr. A. Brandon, Mr. D. J. Kosher, Mr. Wilton Drury, Miss Helen Madell, Miss Winnie Breamer, Miss Dulcie Lawrence, Miss Nana Flensburg.

VINT'S ELECTRIC PALACE OF VARIETIES.—P., Mr. Leon Vint; G. M., Mr. Arthur Brogden.—This week: The Six Ceylons, in sketch, "A Dream in an Opium Den"; Miss Haidee de Rance; and pictures.

RUNCORN.

PUBLIC HALL.—This week (twice nightly): Messrs. Tolfree and Heath present the Four Huzzar Girls and the Sentry; Donald McDougal, the Scot; Harry Morris, versatile artiste; Nolane and Snowden, historical maniacs; and pictures.

RUSHDEN.

PALACE.—G. M., Mr. W. F. J. Hewitt; R. M., Mr. A. W. Thompson.—This week (twice nightly): On Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, Duncan's Royal Scotch collies; Hettie Gould, mezzo-soprano; the Musical McGregors. On Thursday, Friday,

and Saturday; Violet Shelley and company present "Clem"; Rudyar Bann, banjoist; Ethel Arundel, comedienne; and the Brothers Bright, athletes.

SALFORD.

PRINCE OF WALES.—P. & M., Mr. E. B. Goulden.—This week (once nightly, and matinée, Wednesday, 2.30): Mr. Edwin T. Hayes presents "Hindle Wakes." The company includes: Mr. Edward Benson, Miss Nellie Stott, Miss Altona Stafford, Mr. Edward Cooper, Miss Marie Grace, Mr. F. Gerard Clifton, Mr. Harry Denvil, Miss Dorothy Day, Miss Frances Kendall. A. M., Mr. Harry Denvil.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. William Henry Broadhead and Son; R. A. M., Mr. Henry Hearn.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Raynor and his repertoire company: Monday and Wednesday, "Sunlight and Shadow"; Tuesday (2.30 and evening), "Camille"; Thursday, "Caste"; Friday, "Billy's Little Love Affair"; and Saturday, "Moths." The company includes: Mr. Clinton Baddeley, Mr. Raynor, Mr. Charles Brandon, Mr. Milton C. Curtis, Mr. Tom Welsh, Mr. W. A. James, Mr. Eric S. Crowther, Miss Nellie Bonsor, Miss Dolly James, Miss Gertrude Bonsor, Miss Millicent Granville, Miss Ennis Lawson.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES LTD.—M. D., Mr. W. Turner; G. M. Mr. A. D. Dunbar; Mus. D., Mr. Sydney L. Hampton.—This week: Miss Nellie Wallace, eccentric comedienne; The Eight Germania Girls; Bert Castle, swell comedian; Wilton and Howard in musical comedy duologue, "The Winner"; the Four Wards part singers and dancers; Chas. Rowen, eccentric comedian; the Romanys in their musical act; the Harris Trio, English rag-timers; and Helene and Emilon in novelty gymnastic act. Twice nightly, and matinées Tuesday and Saturday at 2.30.

OPERA HOUSE.—M. D., Mr. W. Turner; G. M., Mr. A. D. Dunbar.—This week: Mr. Tom Sherlock, tenor vocalist, in illustrated songs; and pictures.

SCUNTHORPE.

PALACE.—A. M., Mr. A. Dobney; Mus. D., Mr. H. Kay.—This week (twice nightly): F. Marriott Watson and J. Ussher's company, in "The Face at the window." Cast includes: Messrs. Roy Fortescue, Gilbert Hall, James Weston, Harrison Ainsworth, Vivian A. Garton, Frederick Monckton, Arthur Chivers, Frank Fortescue, Alfred Hellier, William Yates, George Lockwood, Robert Hamilton, Will Tetlow, Misses Maudie Grayson, Lallah Shelton, Phyllis Graham, Constance Glenabyn.

PUBLIC HALL.—Licensee, Mr. W. W. Johnson; M., Mr. J. Connolly.—This week (twice nightly): Dudley Dale, eccentric dancer; the Great Cyril, ventriloquist; Marcill and McCaulay, entertainers; Arthur Harris, comedian; and pictures.

SEACOMBE.

SCALA.—G. M., Mr. Ludwig Blattner.—This week (twice nightly and Saturday matinée, 3): Mr. Harry Burns presents "Dick Whittington and His Cat." Cast includes: Miss Helen Charles, Mr. Joe Pauly, Miss Rosie Pink, Miss Lilian Barnes, Miss N. Hindmarch, Mr. Michael Madden, Messrs. Acre and Morris, Miss Gertie Grey, Miss Winnie Taylor, Miss Rita Raymond, Miss Nina Richmond, Mr. S. Lee, Mr. Louis Le Sine, Mr. Geo. Jackley.

SHEERNESS.

HIPPODROME.—S. L., Mr. B. Pareezer; R. M., Mr. George Ridley; Mus. D., Mr. Frank Hughes.—This week: Paul Reece and Wally Summers, comedians; Jenny Dene, comedienne and dancer; Miss Mary C. Glyn and company, in "The Family Name"; the Musical Systers; Ivy, Fred, and Florrie Tudor Sisters, vocalists and dancers; and Mr. Fred Eustace and company in the comedy drama, "The Amber Light."

SHEFFIELD.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. John Hart; G. M. and T., Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—The ever-welcome D'Oyly Carte Opera Company began a fortnight's visit on Monday, opening to a good audience in "The Gondoliers," which was received with the usual manifestations of hearty approval. The programme for the week includes such old favourites as "The Mikado" (with Mr. Fred Billington as Pooh Bah and Mr. Henry A. Lytton as Ko-Ko, the Lord High Executioner), "Patience," "Iolanthe," and the picturesque "Pirates of Penzance," which was produced for the first time in the provinces at the Theatre Royal in 1880. The following talented artistes have been very successful this week: Mr. Fred Billington, Mr. H. A. Lytton, Mr. Leicester Tunks, Mr. Henry Herbert, Mr. Strafford Moss, Mr. Sydney Granville, Miss Louie Rene, Miss Ethel George, Miss Minnie Howell, Miss Beatrice Boarer, Miss Hilda Cross, and Miss Olive Turner. There is a large and well-balanced chorus, and Mr. François Cellier conducts in an admirable manner.

THEATRE ROYAL.—M. D., Mr. John Hart; G. M. and T., Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont; Asst. M., Mr. M. Mahoney.—The dramatic season began on Monday with the Western drama, "The Round-Up," which was well played by Mr. George N. Bullanger's company, and effectively mounted. Mr. Ray Raymond acted with strength and sincerity as Dan, and a strong cast was supported by Mr. H. Stanley, Mr. George Kirkgate, Mr. W. Heaton, Mr. F. Clough, Mr. Lewis Block, Mr. Edgar Neville, Mr. W. Heaton, Mr. F. B. Kelly, Mr. James Willoughby, Mr. Frank Harrison, Mr. Charles Levey, Mr. Alfred Grenville, Mr. A. Lafalle, Mr. Frank Holyoake, Mr. G. Halstein, Mr. W. S. Ford, Mr. S. Morris, Mr. Alfred Lovell, Mr. T. Leslie, Mr. Herdsfield, Mr. H. W. Hall, Miss Mercia Russell, Miss Edith Giddens, Miss Nora Kingsley, and Miss Rita Tomkins. Next week: "The Butterfly on the Wheel."

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. W. D. Forsdike; A. M. and T., Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—On Monday this theatre resumed the serious business of drama on the popular twice-nightly system, when Mr. Charles Barnard presented the interesting and elaborately staged play, "White as a Lily," a dramatic story replete with domestic interest and thrilling scenes of the kind that appeal at once to the sympathies of honest-hearted habitués of the local Drury Lane.

EMPIRE PALACE.—P., The Moss' Empires Co., Ltd.; A. M., Mr. L. M. Stewart; M. D., Mr. Arthur Grimmett.—Mr. George Mozart opened on Monday to a crowded house, and this great and deserved local favourite kept his admirers thoroughly entertained with his original mimicry, quaint types of character, and genial personality; Gene Greene, the latest Transatlantic importation, gave a clever exposition of rag-time song and dance; Mr. Rich. Taylor is a clever ventriloquist; Ike and Will Scott are smart and amusing comedians, and the programme also includes; The Miller Bros., in a comedy acrobatic act; Mr. Herbert Rule, the well-known singer, author, and composer; Master Garnett, a clever young musical artist; L'Incognita, the mysterious masked soprano vocalist; and up-to-date pictures.

HIPPODROME.—P., The Sheffield Hippodrome Co., Ltd.; R. M., Mr. Frank Poole.—The excellent all-round company this week includes; Ginnett's "Wild Australia," interesting to students of colonial life; Carl-Hertz, the celebrated illusionist, who for thirty minutes keeps the spectator on the qui vive with his wonderful and well-worked tricks; Fitz-Allen, novelty comedian; the Bell-Hattons, in a pleasing pot-pourri of popular and classical musical selections; Mr. Rowland Hill, direct from the Theatre Royal pantomime, with funny songs and patter; Miss Mollie McCarthy, the charming comedienne, fresh from her Metropolitan pantomime successes; Miss Ida Barr, burlesque actress and vocalist; the Rangers, in a cycling act; Hippodrome pictures; and the Dounas, clever dancers. M. D., Mr. J. G. Hahn. Matinée on Thursday, at 2.

NEW CENTRAL HALL.—G. M., Mr. Fred W. Holmes.—In addition to new pictures, the variety new-comers are Angers and Escott, in a clever and refined entertainment, and Avis and Barrie, talented and original comedy artistes.

REPERTORY THEATRE.—P., Mr. Orlando Barnett.—This week: "Return of the Prodigal" (Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday), and "Admiral Guinea" (Thursday, Friday and Saturday). Hon. Sec., Mr. R. D. Bennett.

BOSTOCK'S JUNGLE. — G. M., Mr. Harry Tudor.—The new arrivals on the arena stage this week are Mme. Morelli and her leopards, jaguars, &c.; Fitz, with the well-trained twin elephants; Tom Talion, America's youngest lion-tamer; and Mons. Gay's dancing bears. The Fun-Fair is still very popular, the latest screaming mechanical laugh-maker, "Oh!" being a strong rival to the favourite "Kelly's Cottage."

SHREWSBURY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., The Cinema Theatres (Midlands), Ltd.; M., Mr. Clifford Womersley; Mus. D., Mr. Arthur Page.—This week: Messrs. Lionel Rignold and Charles Macdona's company in "Fanny's First Play." The company includes: Mr. Chas. Macdona, Mr. E. H. Patterson, Mr. Gilbert Ritchie, Miss Ethel O'Shea, Miss Adelaide Grace, Miss Marie Rignold, Miss Nellie Hodson, Miss Olive Baxter, and Messrs. T. Connor, Gordon Simpson, Algernon Syme, Richard Green, F. Payne Palmer, L. Herbert, L. Sealy, jun., Frank G. Bayley, and Herbert Garthorne. Next week (first three nights): "The Dollar Princess."

SMETHWICK.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole P., Mr. Charles Barnard; M., Mr. James Chapman.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Derwent Hall Caine presents "The Christian." The company includes: Derwent Hall Caine, Ernest K. Nelson, Geoffrey Gilbey, Charles Aldred, Albert Evermond, Arthur B. Hamilton, Jack Williams, Leonard Matheson, Lucie Evelyn, Peggy Rae, Lydia Bland, Winnie Morgan, Eliane Bhagan, Margery Mentons, Ellen Aggerholm.

EMPIRE, LTD.—M. D., Mr. B. Kennedy; S., Mr. W. H. Adams; A. M., Mr. A. G. Guest.—This week: Vonetta, lady illusionist, and her Continental company; Clive Watts light comedy artiste and speciality dancer; Whitney and Joyner, comedy two; Charlie Drew, comedian; the Len-Hard Trio presenting their dramatic, musical and comedy playlet, "The Burglar's Surprise"; and pictures.

BEARWOOD COLISEUM. — M. D., Mr. B. Kennedy; S., Mr. W. H. Adams; A. M., Mr. H. Kennedy.—This week: The Imres Welsh Comedy Duo; Kean Harker, "the bouncing comedian"; Oram, contortionist; and pictures.

SOUTHAMPTON.

GRAND THEATRE.—R. M., Mr. Arthur Weston; Mus. D., Mr. J. Warwick Moore.—This week: Miss Hilda Trevelyan and Mr. Edmund Gwenn's company of Welsh players, in the comedy, "Little Miss Llewelyn."

PALACE.—R. M., Mr. Will Murray; A. M. Mr. Fred Mason; Mus. D., Mr. J. Wilde.—This week: "The Cat and the Cherub," presented by Mr. George Isenthal's Co.; the Stein Esthor Trio of acrobats; Hughie Ogilvie, Scottish comedian; Violet Romaine, vocalist; the Three Owens; the Schillots; Sylvia and Mignon; and the Terry Twins, the duplicate comedians.

HIPPODROME — M. D., Mr Walter de Frece; R. M., Mr. H. Yardley; Mus. D., Mr. Southworth. —Oswald Williams in illusions, the Viennese Trio, Victor and Velma, Dave Carter, Percy Clifford, and Doris May, Three Comerfords, Potter, and Bert Williams.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—L. & M., Mr. B. Pareezer; R. M., Mr. Julian Graham.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Charles Steuart presents "Ann." The company includes: Mr. Cyril Melton, Mr. John Astley, Mr. Charles Steuart, Miss Margaret Marshall, Miss Lilian Ward, and Miss Trilby O'Farrell (by kind permission of Messrs. Vedrenne and Eadie). T. M., Mr. Cyril Melton. Matinée, Wednesday, at 2.30. Next week: "Oliver Twist" by the Southend O. S.

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Walter de Frece; R. M., Mr. W. H. Lennon.—This week: Mabel Moss, singer; the Benhills, comedy bar act; Arthur Croxon, entertainer; Alfredo, vagabond violinist; Gene Crowe, the happy minstrel; "The Fox Hunt"; Martin Kamp, humorist; Joe Peterman presents "The Pawnbroker"; and pictures.

SOUTHPORT.

OPERA HOUSE.—L. & M., Mr. Percy Hutchison; B. M., Mr. George Clarkson.—This week (once nightly): Mr. George Dance presents "Ben-Hur." The company includes: Cecil Tressilian, Horace Ferley, Charles Smythe, Philip Desborough, Hatton Sinclair, Edward Valentine, Douglas Vigors, Walter Underwood, Vivian Harbord, O. Waller, Robert James, Charles Maverne, Eric Fane, Francis King, Fred Vernon, Jack Glyn, Arthur Walter, Edith Blande, Mildred Cottell, Eva Rowland, Elizabeth Watson, and Eileen Atherley. T. M., Mr. Bert Womack. Next week: "Hindle Wakes."

SOUTH SHIELDS.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. & M., Mr. John W. Coulson; Mus. D., Mr. Joseph Hopper.—This week (twice nightly): Messrs. De Gray and Masterman present "The Indian Scout." The company includes: Geo. A. de Gray, Max Coutts, David Blair, Tyrone Power, Reginald J. Turner, Dick Crosby, Seymour Perry, Bert Carlton, Jack Soderick, Gerald Conner, Leonard Douglas, Miss Kitty Fitzgerald, Miss Doris Brereton, Miss Etta Turner, Miss Violet Ingram. T. M., Mr. Geo. A. de Gray. Next week: "The Woman Pays."

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—M. D., Mr. Richard Thornton; G. M., Mr. Frank Allen; R. M., Mr. Edwin Winter.—This week: The Jackson Family of trick cyclists; Dave Poole, in his ventriloquial sketch; Harry Bedford, comedian; Park's Eton Boys, vocal entertainers; Nellie Bly, in dancing scena; Bob, Ivy and Lyn, vocal speciality; Speedwell, the wizard painter; and the Bioscope.

PALACE ELECTRIC THEATRE, HIGH SHIELDS.—M. & Lecturer, Mr. Wilfrid Bryant; Asst. M., Mr. Richard Taylor.—This week: The Schiavoni Troupe of acrobats; Beatty Brothers, comedians and burlesque dancers; and pictures.

GRAND ELECTRIC THEATRE.—M., Mr. James W. Bainton.—This week: Haymar and Metford, singers and dancers; Nobby, the boy comedian; and pictures.

KING'S PICTURES, TEMPERANCE HALL.—R. M., Mr. Morris George Elsy.—This week: David Fuller, actor-vocalist; and pictures.

SPENNYMOOR.

CAMBRIDGE.—L., Messrs. Alf. Burrows and Thos. Drewett; M., Mr. Burrows.—This week: Mr. Frank Adair's company in "A Mother's Love." The company includes: Miss M. Thorne-Hallam, Mr. Frank Adair, Tiny Hetty, Miss Winifred Action, Miss Edith Kirke, Mr. Conrad E. Stratford, Mr. Wilfred Mansfield, Mr. Walter T. Hybert, and Mr. Andrew Moore.

ARCADIA.—P., Mr. R. F. Gowland; M., Mr. H. E. Feather.—This week: Wal Langtry, comedian; Arthur Sleep's Seven Selects, in singing and dancing scena; M. Wilfred, flexible marvel; and pictures.

EMPIRE.—M., Mr. W. D. Huzzard.—This week: Britt and Britt, comedians and dancers; Christo, illusionist; and pictures.

STAFFORD.

PLAYHOUSE.—L. & M., Mrs. Evelyn Thomasa. —This week: Wm. De Lacy's company in "The Babes in the Wood" includes: Messrs. Bobby Doon, Freddie Frome, Wm. de Lacy, Tom Ashby, the Elvinas, Granville and Glen, Misses E. Levaine, Winnie Morris, Evy Darrell, Amy Osborne, Elsie Fowler, Doris Snowden, Rene Snowden, Cissy Hanlon, and Miss Marie Angus. Specialities by Granville and Glen, Molly O'Connor, Tom Ashby, and the Crystal Sextette. Next week: Mr. T. Arthur Jones Co., in "Life's Sweetest Sins" and "When Other Lips."

STANLEY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., The Stanley Theatre Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Mark H. Lindon; Mus. D., Mr. J. F. Macdonald.—This week (Monday, Tuesday, Friday, and Saturday): Mr. Frank M. Thorne's company in "The Woman Pays"; on Wednesday and Thursday in "The Shaughraun." The company includes: Mr. Will Beasley, Mr. Fred Garratt, Mr. Victor Garnet Vayne, Mr. H. C. Lanceley, Mr. J. Fulton Miller, Mr. Charles Arthur, Mr. Arthur T. Cresswell, Mr. Dunlop Stewart, Mr. Pat Quinn, Mr. H. W. Percival, Mr. Arthur Brownlaw, Mr. A. S. Sale, Miss Hettie Ferguson, Miss Clara Widdicombe, Miss Lilian Bales, Miss May Wright, Mrs. S. Porteous. T. M., Mr. M. Stewart.

ELITE.—This week (twice nightly): Otto Mentotti, trick cyclist; Paul Victor, shadowgraphist; Jean Seul; and pictures.

STOCKPORT.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole O. & M., Mr. Charles Revill; A. M., Mr. William Revill. — This week: Mr. Percy Hutchison and company in "Brewster's Millions." The company also includes: Mr. Ernest Doans, Mr. Gerald Fitzgerald, Mr. T. Gordon-Blyth, Mr. Henry Hampson, Mr. Herbert Marshall, Mr. V. S. Haye, Mr. Charles Bedells, Mr. Henry Byatt, Mr. Walter Plinge, Mr. F. G. Thurstans, Mr. A. Paynter, Mr. F. Hunter, Miss Lilias Earl, Miss Claire Milrain, Miss Gerinda, Miss Muriel Nevison, Miss Betty Linley, and Miss Elsie Stranack.

STOCKTON.

GRAND THEATRE.—P., Mr. John Batty; M., Mr. Walter Batty.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Morton Powell presents "From Mill Girl to Millionairess." The company includes: Miss Pattie Hastings, Miss Florence Hamilton, Miss Emily Huby, Miss Irene Carrington, Miss Lizzie Lennon, Miss Mabel Roselle, Mr. Alfres Stretton, Mr. Fredk. Freeman, Mr. J. A. Hybert, Mr. Richard Webb, Mr. Western Beecher, Mr. C. H. L. Locke, Mr. E. R. Shrewd, Mr. Allert Sangar, Master G. Blaze, Mr. P. Clay, Miss Arnie May, Miss Lucy Lauder, Miss Marion Mason. T. M., Mr. Charles H. L. Locke.

HIPPODROME.—L. & G. M., Mr. Harry Burns; R. M., Mr. G. V. Stainton.—This week (twice nightly): Miss Loie Esmond and company present: On Monday, Thursday, and Saturday, "Nana"; on Tuesday and Wednesday, "The Sorrows of Satan"; on Friday only, "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde." The company includes: Mr. Edward Neville, Mr. Sydney Andrews, Mr. Harold Duncan, Mr. Oscar Wyatt, Mr. A. Jarvis, Mr. H. Flint, Mr. B. Ferry, Mr. J. Wilkes, Mr. J. le Fleming, Mr. Medcalfe, Miss Alice Oliver, Miss Loie Esmond, Miss Cicily Byrne, Miss Rita Morville, Miss Rosie Neville. Next week: "The Forty Thieves."

STOKE-ON-TRENT.

HIPPODROME.—P., Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; M., Mr. William Berson.—This week: Messrs. Hinton and Zillwood's company present "His Indian Wife." The cast includes Leonard Williams and Irene Atchinson.

STOURBRIDGE.

ALHAMBRA THEATRE, PICTURE PALACE, AND VARIETY HALL.—L., Mr. Douglas C. Phelps.—This week (for first three nights): Little Abo; Bell and Pley, comedy acrobats; the Four Behans, "The Mystery of Kador Cliffs"; and Pheir pictures. Last three nights: Messrs. R. acdonald and T. B. Young's company with "T Dollar Princess," by arrangement with Mr. George Edwardes.

KING'S HALL.—P., Poole's Theatres, Ltd.; M., Mr. H. J. Wharton.—This week: The Scottish Meisters, including A. N. Mackinnon; the Gentrys, comedy artistes; El Roy, the armless wonder; and Poole's pictures.

QUEEN'S HALL, BRIERLEY HILL.—P., Poole's Theatres, Ltd.; M., Mr. Cecil Cooper.—This week: The Four Maisanos; Wee Vesta Henry; and Poole's pictures.

SUNDERLAND.

KING'S THEATRE.—L. & M., Mr. S. F. Davidson; G. M., Mr. Lloyd Townrow; T., Mr. T. Crawford Orr.—Mr. Philip Michael Faraday's company is playing here this week in the musical comedy "The Pink Lady." The title-rôle is sustained in a delicious manner by Miss Hilda Vining, and completely enchants her auditors with her charming voice. Miss Gladys Beech is dainty and piquant as Angele; Miss Joan Keddie ably sustains the part of La Comtesse de Montanvert; and Miss Mabel Durrant is fittingly tragic as Mme. Dondidier. The mannerisms and facial expression of Mr. Fred Wright as Dondidier create roars of laughter; Mr. Hewitt Whiting gives a capital rendering of Lucien; and as Maurice Mr. Robert Blythe is equally good. Mr. Walter Vron adds much to the humour of the piece as Bebe, and Mr. Harold Loscombe does well as Theodore Levee. The piece is magnificently mounted.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Mr. Richard Thornton. —Mr. G. Carlton Wallace's drama, "A Thief in the Night," is being played here by a strong company before well-filled houses. Miss Elizabeth Watkins is the leading lady, and she gives a meritorious performance as Joan Escombe; Miss Josephine Colona displays much histrionic ability as Sonia Cleve; Mr. Ellis Leigh gives a capital performance as Alan Escombe; Mr. Norman Cannon proves an able exponent of villainy as Michael Pagani; while the lighter vein is skilfully handled by Mr. Algy Spalding and Miss Kitty Graham. The remaining rôles are in good hands.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—P., Mr. Richard Thornton; G. M., Hr. Henry Esden.—Mr. Chas. Aldrich is earning tremendous applause, and well deserving it, with his quick-change act, which combines at once great skill and humour; Lieut. Insen's band supplies another popular item, the music being as good as it is varied; Tom Parker creates much amusement with his clever songs and patter; the Hanlon Brothers present their farce, "The Haunted Hatel," with huge success; the Brothers St. John excel in music and humour; Gus. Garrick is to the fore with some uproarious comedy business; a clever performance is given by Captain Taylor's trained animals; and the Boston Boys and Girls are seen to advantage in song and dance.

AVENUE THEATRE.—P., Mr. Richard Thornton; B. M., Mr. J. Clement Padden.—Mr. and Mrs. John B. Shinton are producing a capital one-act play by Mr. Frank E. Potter, entitled "The Passeword." The acting is of the highest order, and the approval of the audience unstinted. Austen Temple, assisted by Irene Vincent, are popular with some clever magical work.

PALACE THEATRE.—G. M., Mr. A. G. Hamilton.—The Kratons are having a gratifying reception here with a clever hoop-manipulating act; the Ketos cause roars of laughter with their acrobatic act, which is also skilful; and the Five Cherry Girls perform in a pleasing song-scena.

SUTTON-IN-ASHFIELD.

KING'S THEATRE.—L. & M., Mr. James Elphinstone.—This week: Mr. Chas. Locke's company, in "A Blind Girl's Love." The cast includes: Messrs. Elton Morgan, Geo. Steel, Edwin Turner, Wallace Bruce, Artie Francis, Erne Turner, Misses Flo Norman, Adeline Raby, Hettie Senior, and Issa Steel.

SWANSEA.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Mr. William Coutts, G. M., Mr. Hal Cummings; A. M., Mr. Chas. McNamara; Mus. D., Mr. Tom H. Williams.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Stuart Lomath's company in "The Mill Girl and the Miner." Company includes: Mr. Stuart Lomath, Mr. R. Malcolm Strachan, Mr. Hugh Travers, Mr. Sam Roberts, Mr. Tom Armitage, Mr. Charles Trevar, Mr. Harry Emmerson, Mr. W. Myers, Mr. Reginald Page, Mr. John Strong, Mr. Tom Woods, Miss Catherine May, Miss Ellen Owen-Lomath, Miss Kitty Johnston, Miss Connie Tremayne. Next week: "The Old Home."

GRAND THEATRE.—Sole P., Messrs. David Allen and Son, Ltd.; L., Executors of the late Fredk. Mouillot; R. M., Mr. T. Byrne; Mus. D., Mr. W. F. Hulley.—This week (once nightly and matinée, Saturday, 2.30): Mr. Allan Aynesworth's company in "Ready Money." The company includes: Mr. Mark Blow, Mr. Fred Tooze, Mr. L. Baskcomb-Ward, Mr. Archie Selwyn, Mr. Cedric Percival, Mr. Cyril Ashford, Mr. Aubrey Mather, Mr. Wilfred Bailey, Mr. Douglas Payne, Mr. Sidney Lynn, Mr. William Holmes, Mr. Frank Hamilton, Mr. Jack Thomas, Miss Helen Langton, Miss Adelaide Tanner, Miss Dorothea St. Clair Smith, Miss Olivia Glynn. T. M., Mr. Arthur Bishop. Next week: "The Whip."

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. George H. Richardson.—George Lashwood; Sisters Royce and Sid, vocalists and dancers; Walter Bellomini, juggler, and his comedy assistant; Fred Poplar, comedian; Kitty Wager, comedienne; Bert Shepard at the piano; Nora Emerald, comedienne; Donaldson Brothers; and pictures.

SWINDON.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—P., The Wiltshire Entertainments Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Alfred Manners.—This week: Mr. Geo. N. Ballanger presents the American scout, Young Buffalo, and company in "King of the Wild West." The company includes: Young Buffalo, Messrs. Ernest A. Foster, Robert Chambers, Gus Ruhlin, F. Morgan, Arthur C. Goff, Bob Delamere, Ali Delamere, E. L. Restoff, J. Reynard, James Hudson Brownlee, Ralph Brambles, C. Shade, H. Bradshaw, Alf Mitchell, E. Brunt, Walter Hassell, Jack Williams, Albert Myatt, A. Solloway, J. Pointing, B. Ratcliffe, W. Simmonds, Misses Lucy Burrows, Kitty Clover, and Lillian Maude. T. M., Mr. Frank Mundill. Next week: "Robinson Crusoe."

TODMORDEN.

OLYMPIA.—L. & M., Messrs. Bennett and Tolfree, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. Albert E. Nicholls.—This week (once nightly); Maud Hughes, soprano; Jack W. Rooke, comedian; and pictures.

TORQUAY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and M. D., Mr. W. H. Mortimer; S., Mr. Arthur Pearse.—This week: Mr. Robert Burnett and company, in "The Bear-Leaders." The cast includes: Misses Ormonde Wynne, Rene Vivian, Nancy Imlach, Ethel Russell, Frances White, Janet Gillette, Ethel Russell, Messrs. J. Mitchell, P. Smyth, Roberton Hare, Charles Barber, George Goodwin, Ion O. Will, W. S. Butt, Allan Harris and Robert Burnett.

PAVILION.—P., The Torquay Town Council; M., Mr. Austin M. Wilshere.—This week: Miss Gertrude Blomfield (soprano) and Mr. Alan MacWhirter (folk songs), vocalists; and the Municipal Orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Basil Hindenberg.

TREHERBERT.

PALACE.—M. D., Mr. C. W. Poole; R. M., Mr. W. A. Totten.—This week: Hans and Fritz, chimpanzees; Maude St. Malo and Harry Coombs, in a vocal and musical comedy act, "Regatta Day"; Ted Karno and company, in a comedy sketch, "Dinner Hour"; and pictures. Matinées, Tues- 11, Saturday, at 3.

TREORCHY.

PAVILION.—P., Messrs. Jones Bros.; R. M., Mr. R. Mothersill.—This week (twice nightly): Hodgson Lowther and company, in "Left Luggage"; Billy Simpson, character comedian; Smit and Smit; and pictures. Matinée, Tuesday, at 11 a.m.

WAKEFIELD.

OPERA HOUSE.—P., Sherwood and Co.—This week (once nightly): Louis Meyer presents "The Glad Eye." Cast includes: Sam Wilkinson, Frederick Meads F. Clive Ross, Tom Tindall, Carl W. Lindsey, Reginald Maurice, Frank W. Ward, Maurice Winter, Ernest Gray, Esther Whitehouse, Rhoda Beresford, Laurie Flockton, Ethel Percival T. M., Mr. F. Clive Ross.

EMPIRE.—P., Sherwood and Co.—This week (twice nightly): Arthur Hinton and Leila Zillwood's Co., in "Allah's Orchard." Cast includes: Arthur Hinton, Herbert Evelyn, Frank McClellan, Arthur Keand, David Phillips, Leonard Gardiner, Mark Adams, Ethel Monton, Paulin Haydon, Annette Howard, Maimie West, Daisie Dene, Marie Horton, Elsie Evelyn, Norman Craig, Violet Hebditch, Dolly Wallace, F. Smith, Molly Beeston, Maisie Bell, Isa Clark, Marie Royale, Nellie Davis, May Ward, Grace Pigott, Florence Zillwood. T. M., Mr. Arthur Hinton.

HIPPODROME.—L., Mr. Sydney Tolfree; A. M., Mr. Harry Heath.—This week (twice nightly): Dort and Leonard, eccentric acrobats; Coates and Parish, operatic vocalists; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.45.

GRAND ELECTRIC.—R. M., Mr. H. Dunnill.—This week (twice nightly): The Two Cherubs, vocalists and dancers; Harry Morris, patter comedian and mimic; and pictures. Matinées, Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday, at 3.

WALSALL.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—P., The Walsall Theatres Co., Ltd.; Joint M., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; S. & M., Mr. W. H. Westwood.—This week: Mr. Harry Burns' pantomime, "Robinson Crusoe." The company includes: Miss Victoria Carmen, Miss Florrie Elliston, Miss Vera Rochdale, Messrs. Arthur Aiston, Will Lindsay, H. Griffiths, and Stewart and Morris.

WELLINGBOROUGH.

PALACE.—G. M., Mr. W. F. J. Hewitt; R. M., Mr. Joseph Baron.—This week (twice nightly): On Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, Violet Shelley and company present "Clem"; Rudyar Bann, banjoist; Ethel Arundel, comedienne and mimic; the Brothers Bright, athletes. On Thursday, Friday, and Saturday: Duncan's Royal Scotch Collies; Hettie Gould, mezzo-soprano; the Seahams, in speciality; the Musical McGregors; and pictures.

WEST BROMWICH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Messrs. R. Nightingale and Montague Beaudyn.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Beaudyn presents "At the Mercy of the Mormons." The company includes: Mr. Stanley S. Gordon, Mr. Henry Parr, Mr. Collin F. Heather, Mr. Billy Sherlock, Mr. Sidney Clewlow, Mr. Tom Arkinstall, Mr. Rass Challis, Miss Kate Froude, Miss Gertrude Vickers, Miss Nina Vaughton, and the Texans. T. M., Mr. Stanley S. Gordon.

WESTCLIFF-ON-SEA.

NEW PALACE.—P., Mr. Matt Raymond; A. M., Mr. H. G. Griffin.—King and King, comedy duo; Ernie Williams, comedian; Musical Keiths; the renowned Irish comedian, Pat Rafferty, in his latest success; Mr. Webster Norcross presents; Mme. Kalna and company in "The Masterpiece"; Victoria Dagmar, gymnast; Alan Gwyn, humorist; Ascot and Dewey, the huntsman and the maid; the Sisters Sprightly, burlesque artistes.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.

GRAND THEATRE.—L., Mr. Stanley Rogers; A. M., Mr. J. W. Seaward.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. and Mrs. Harry Lyndon's company in "The Pet of the Ranch." Company includes: Algernon J. Hicks, Geo. Flood, Edgar Morgan, C. D. Pitt, Harry Lyndon, Master Harold Bell, Frank Guest, W. Noble, Little Cayuse, Lone Star, Miss Maudie Vincent, Miss Grace Jones, Miss Edie Macklin, Miss Iza Lyndon.

EMPIRE.—P., West Hartlepool Empire Palace, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Richard Thornton; R. M., Mr. S. T. Smurthwaite; Mus. D., Mr. Alfred C. Reynolds. —This week (once nightly): Mr. Philip Michael Faraday presents "The Chocolate Soldier." The company includes: Mr. Charles R. Walenn, Miss May Clarke, Miss May Tomlinson, Mr. Jack Martin, Mr. Horace Dukes, Miss Winifred Etheridge, Mr. C. Stuart, Miss Sadie Edwards, Miss Lillie Bell, Mr. Herbert Millard, Mr. Cecil Barnes, Miss Evelyn Vernham, Mr. Fredk. Leigh, Mr. Arthur Reynolds. T. M., Mr. Herbert Carter. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.

EMPRESS.—L. & M., Mr. Albert Maxsted; Mus. D., Mr. Carter Staincliffe.—This week: Miss Cecilia Dare and company in a repertory of plays, including, on Monday and Wednesday, "Sowing the Wind"; Tuesday, "She Stoops to Conquer"; Thursday, "A Snug Little Kingdom"; Friday, "Masks and Faces"; and Saturday, "The Woman of Kronstadt." The company includes: Mr Conrad Heywood, Miss Cecilia Dare, Mr. Walter J. Moss, Mr. Ernest Lodge, Mr. Vincent W. Carlyle, Miss Leslie Cudd, Miss Lena Tarver, Mr. Bartlett Garth, Mr. Hyam Twyson, Mr. T. Norman Akeroyd, Mr. Frank Thornton, Mr. C. Milley Doyle, Miss Adela Harvey, Miss Rose Banques, Miss Maude Leslie-Cudd, Miss Ada Band, and Miss Madeline Gray.

PALACE.—L., Mr. W. G. Armstrong; M., Mr. W. Capner; Mus. D., Mr. S. Grahame.—This week: The Harley Boys (and a piano) in rag-time dances, and Harry Hayton, parodist and comedian, and pictures.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE.

KNIGHTSTONE PAVILION AND OPERA HOUSE.—M., Mr. W. Payne.—This week: Miss Inez Howard's company in "When London Sleeps." The company includes: Mr. F. G. Hughes, Mr. Daniel Greene, Mr. W. H. Baker, Mr. Charles Roberts, Mr. E. V. Wyndham, Mr. Roland Hope, Mr. Sydney Fiennes, Mr. Fred Park, Mr. Truswell Turner, Mr. John North, Mr. Tom Bridge, Miss Louise Parkinson, Miss Jeannie Hammerton, Miss Phyllis Massye, Miss Eda Davis, Miss Ethel Parsons, Miss Dorothy Glade, and Miss Enid Wilde.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—P., Mr. Albany Ward; M., Mr. F. Adderley.—This week: Hettie Courtney's Kidlets, terpsichoreans and vocalists; Miss Renee Ray, in tableaux; and pictures.

WEST STANLEY.

ALBERT HALL.—L., Mr. Randall Williams; R. M., Mr. G. E. Routledge.—This week (twice nightly): The Cleveland Troupe, and pictures.

WHITBY.

WATERLOO ELECTRIC THEATRE.—This week: Mr. Harry Knox, comedian; and pictures.

WHITEHAVEN.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Mr. Stanley Rogers; A. M., Mr. Will Gibson; C., Mr. Fred Merryman.—This week: Miss Isa Bowman's company, in "The Girl in the Picture." The company includes: Messrs. Frank Barclay, Hylton Ward, G. Scott, Besley Betram, Misses Kitty Kirwan, J. Compton, Dora Graeves, and Isa Bowman.

PICTURE PALACE.—L., Mr. Victor Branford; M., Mr. J. T. Hurst.—This week: The Royal Ikomas, Japanese jugglers; Harry Luck, character comedian; and pictures.

ST. JAMES' ELECTRIC THEATRE.—S., Mr. B. Halliwell.—This week: J. C. Scatter, comedian; Daisy Reed, comedienne; Violet

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FILM GOSSIP.

Portswood Picture Palladium.

Yet another picture palace in Southampton, and one that may be absolutely described as the last word in cinema theatres, was opened on Monday evening last by the Mayor, Councillor Henry Bowyer, R.N.R. Situate in the populous residential suburb of Portswood, and appropriately named the Portswood Picture Palladium, this palatial building had a magnificent send off, and the joint proprietors, Messrs. Sydney A. Bacon and Henry J. Hood, are to be heartily congratulated on the success of their efforts. There is seating accommodation for 650 persons, a spacious balcony holding about 150. The tip-up seats are of blue plush, and the scheme of decoration is most artistic, being carried out in Wedgwood blue. The lighting, ventilating, and musical arrangements are perfect, and the builder, Mr. H. J. Hood, who is also one of the joint proprietors, received high encomiums on the beautiful building he had produced. The Mayor, who was presented with a gold key, in declaring the building open, expressed the hope that the people of Portswood and Southampton would extend their patronage and so make the venture a financial success. Some excellent films were shown, and the fashionable audience received them with many expressions of approval. Both the proprietors are well-known local sportsmen, and the success of their enterprise is already assured.

Leicester Picture Theatres.

At the Picture House two fine Selig pictures are seen in "Mike's brainstorm" and "Wrongfully accused, other noteworthy ones being "A dollar saved is a dollar earned," and "A thrilling rescue by Uncle Mun" (both Edison). "How diamonds are made" is also most interesting. The orchestra here is a great and enjoyable feature.

At the Floral Hall "The guilty baby," "A dollar saved is a dollar earned," "By the sea," "Tempest in the Bay of Biscay," "The face and the voice," "The handbag," and "California snipe hunt," are included in a very good programme.

At the Grand Electric Palace, the usual well-shown list includes "The bar K. foreman," "The conflicts end," "Boss of the Katy mine," "Nellie's marriage," "Ireland, the oppressed," "Arabian sport," the third series of "On the Mountain of St. Gothard," and many others.

New Electric Picture Palace at South Wigston.

Messrs. Smith and Jackson have taken over the old skating rink at this thriving place, which is surrounded by many popular villages, and have transformed it into the Electric Picture Palace. It has caught on, and frequently it will not hold the people. Tip-up chairs and upholstered seats have been installed.

Presentation to Mr. and Mrs. Frank L. Clayton.

An interesting little function was carried through at the Empire Theatre, Greenock, on Saturday evening last. It took the form of a presentation to Mr. Frank L. Clayton, who, as district-manager for the B.B. Pictures, Ltd., is exceedingly popular in Greenock. Mr. Clayton was presented with a masonic jewel and a gold garnet ring, suitably inscribed, as a token of esteem from his staff and friends. Mrs. Clayton was the recipient of a gold bracelet-watch, also suitably inscribed. The presentations were made by Mr. A. McHutcheon and Captain Taylor respectively. Mr Clayton feelingly responded.

Northampton's Picture Palaces.

The Abington Picture Palace (late Bentleys), which has been closed down for a few weeks, re-opened on Monday last with a new title, viz., the King's Picture Palace. Mr. Henry N. Phillips is the lessee and general-manager, and Mr. F. Heather the resident-manager. Mr. Joseph Dore will provide the music. The house will be continued on the twice-nightly system, with a twice-a-week change of programme. The leading pictures screened are "At the foot of the scaffold" and Water rats." Andrews' Pictures.—Mr. Tom Vaisey is also showing "At the foot of the scaffold," together with "The red cross nurse." At the popular Castle Cinema Mr. J. de Chastelain has a good list, including "The poacher's pardon" and "The last rose of summer." The East Park Picturedrome, one of the latest additions, has secured the services of Mr. W. Roberts as manager and lecturer. "The path of destiny," a coloured film of 2,700ft., is the special feature here. "Mifanwy" is another strong subject, and "A trip through a colliery" very interesting. The Electric Pavilion is showing a series of pictures of great interest in connection with the Polar expedition, by Mr. Herbert G. Ponting, F.R.G.S., cinematographer to the Scott expedition. At the Picture House (late Palace Theatre of Varieties, Proprietors, The European Cinemas, Ltd.), the specials are "The smouldering spark," "Captain Bell's yarn," and "The iron heel."

"The Ranger and His Horse."

This Selig Western feature, to be released on March 6, deals with the story of a band of outlaws who are holding the sheriff's niece a prisoner to ensure their own safety. The sheriff asks the girl's sweetheart, who is a Texas ranger, to come and help him find her. The ranger creates for himself a reputation as a bandit, so that when he arrives he is welcomed to the outlaw camp as one of their own kind. He locates the girl, and manages to make the outlaw chief a prisoner. With the aid of his wonderfully intelligent horse, he then sets about getting the girl out of her prison, and, going to the top of an overhanging cliff, makes his rope fast to the saddle, and lowers himself into the gulch. He gets the girl out, and the horse, as he feels the tugging at the rope, pulls them to the top in safety. They are pursued by outlaws, and are hard pressed, but the ranger will not give up his prisoner. He sends the girl after assistance, and holds the band off until the posse arrive. He then turns the chief over to the sheriff, goes to the girl, and claims his reward. 1,010ft.

"Harnessing a Mountain Stream."

Released by Edison's on March 8, this film is a picture introducing some magnificent scenery. It shows a mountain stream passing through its various courses from one lake to another, until at last it reaches the great salt sea. Throughout the picture the fantastic figure of the old man of the mountain stream appears, and the picture is a rare combination of industry and story. The spectator is taken from the waterfall in the mountains up to the building of the dam, the harnessing of the stream by wooden troughs carried miles over the mountains, where it is converted into electric power. He is also shown the results derived from this power, how the water is carried on through its various courses, and later the operation of refining salt. 400ft.

"Barcelona."

Released on March 12, by the Urbanora Company, this fine travel film shows picturesque scenes of great interest in and about Barcelona, the chief port of Spain. The spectator sees a panoramic view of all the harbour and the quays, of which the traveller can catch a glimpse from the Montjuick Hills. The hills are also shown later, crowned as they are by the important fortifications. Next are seen the various quays crowded with busy and hustling people, followed afterwards by a photo of the monument to Christopher Columbus. The beautiful park of Güell is shown, following interesting scenes from the Muralla Quay and the Mundial Palace. Then there are varied scenes of the lovely gardens and nooks in Barcelona, the picture finishing up with a photograph of a very curious fountain. 430ft.

"The Cabby's Nightmare."

A capital comic, to be released by the Gaumont Co. on March 9, is "The Cabby's Nightmare." It deals with the adventures of a cabby named Jeremiah Bloggs. Unlike most of his fraternity, he is singularly inconsiderate to his horse, Pretty Polly. One night he returns home in that delightful state of irresponsibility which is invariably followed by a splitting headache. He climbs into bed, but his sleep is soon disturbed by the appearance of a quadruped, which bears a strong resemblance to his horse. Bloggs is seized by the collar and lashed into the shafts of his growler, the animal mounting the seat. Bloggs's career as a cabhorse is brief by harrowing, and the numerous indignities to which he is subjected soon convince him that a nag's life can be worse than a dog's. When a fall from the bed restores him to wakefulness he resolves that Polly shall be treated with greater kindness in the future. 495ft.

"Making a Mess of It."

This is an ultra-comic film, to be released by Pathé Frères, Ltd., on March 5, which tells the history of an ambitious youth, who, giving evidence of some artistic ability, is apprenticed by his short-sighted father to a house decorator. The new employee, has, however, unorthodox views upon paint mixing and house decorating, and very startling are the results—quite post-impressionist Romeo also falls into many entanglements of a varied character. On the whole, he makes a thorough mess of things, and is forced to relinquish house decorating as a profession.

Kinemacolor.

Mr. Charles Urban, who has hitherto restricted the London exhibition of "Kinemacolor" to the Scala Theatre, has, by the overwhelming success of the pictures and the rapid accumulation of fresh subjects, been moved to adopt a far wider policy of "release," with the immediate result that "Kinemacolor" is now a leading feature at no less than five West-End houses. By special arrangement with Mr. Oswald Stoll, "Kinemacolor" becomes a permanent item in the Coliseum programme, and is also to be found at the Scala, the Marble Arch, the Maida Vale, and the New Gallery Kinema, with a further score of similarly notable engagements, either assured or already effected—to say nothing of the important developments of Kinemacolor's more serious side.

On Friday, the 14th, six hundred teachers from the Education Department of the London County Council attended a special matinée at the Scala to inspect the varied and informative series—presented with full orchestra and "sound effects"—intended to be put before the children in the Council schools. Travel subjects, it may be incidentally stated, are so singularly successful that cinematographers have this week been despatched to Cuba, Jamaica, and the Philippines.

Kinematograph Exhibition.

In connection with the International Kinematograph Exhibition and Conference, to be held at Olympia in the last week of March, an endeavour is being made to collect all the film pictures and other photographs dealing with the late Captain Scott and his Antarctic expeditions. The living pictures will be shown in one or other of the fifteen kinema theatres to be erected in Olympia, and the tale of the heroic explorers will be told by a trained lecturer. In the hope of inculcating patriotism, the management has decided to admit school children at a nominal fee. For the Kinematograph Exhibition in general the great hall will be finely decorated. Each national section will have a typical setting. For example, the All-British section will be an old English hamlet; Germany will have a representation of old Heidelberg; for France a noble chateau will be erected, and Holland's exhibits are to be housed in a Dutch village.

THE L.C.C. AND AMUSEMENTS.

The weekly meeting of the London County Council was held on Tuesday at the County Hall, Spring Gardens, Lord Cheylesmore (chairman) presiding.

TRANSFER OF LICENCES.

The Theatres and Music Halls Committee recommended that the licences for music for the Cinema de Paris, Bear-street, Leicester-square, the Grand Casino, Strand, the Grand Cinema, Edgware-road, and the Putney Cinema, Upper Richmond-road, be transferred from Arthur Soden Markwell to Ernest Frederick Harrison.

Agreed to.

LICENCES CONFIRMED.

The Council on Nov. 29 last granted a provisional licence for music and dancing for the Mornington Hall, Canonbury-lane, Islington. The premises have, it was stated, now been altered in accordance with the drawings approved by the Council, and the conditions attached to such approval. The Theatres and Music Halls Committee recommended that the provisional licence be confirmed.

The Council on Nov. 29 last also granted a provisional licence for music for the Queen's Hall, Sydenham-road. The requirements in respect of the premises having been satisfactorily completed the Theatres Committee recommended that the provisional licence be confirmed.

Approved.

DEFINITION OF A JOY-WHEEL.

Counsel's opinion as to the meaning of that diverting form of amusement called the "joy-wheel" was given in a case heard in the Court of King's Bench on Monday. "What is a 'joy-wheel?'" inquired Mr. Justice Lush of Mr. Lewis Thomas, K.C., who gave the following learned description: "It is a wheel more or less on the horizontal which rotates with more or less rapidity upon its own axis. A person rides upon the revolving wheel, and the nearer the periphery of the wheel he is the more surely he is flung off. The more rapidly the wheel revolves the more quickly is he hurled into space."

"Do they call that a joy-wheel?" queried the Judge.

"The joy is to the other people who look on," was Mr. Thomas's reply, amid laughter in Court.

"FUN IN A DORMITORY."

Mr. Joe Collins produced, at the Hammersmith Palace, on Monday evening, a novel singing and dancing scena, entitled "Fun in a Dormitory." The scene opens on a dark stage, eight young ladies appearing from tiny little cots, very daintily clad in pyjamas, singing, "That hypnotising man," the while shining tiny electric lights on their faces. The hypnotising man appears from the back of the stage, and ultimately develops into one of the Muratti's, and when joined by his lady partner gives a wonderful exhibition of whirlwind dancing. The scena closes with a pretty speciality dance by the whole of the company, which, we think, would be improved if there were a little more light on the stage. The production is exceptionally well dressed, and was received with much applause.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD

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Showmen in Council.

For twenty-four years in succession the Empire's showmen have met in conference at the Old Guildhall of King's Lynn, or in some public building in the grand old town. There are several excellent reasons for this yearly pilgrimage of show people to the Royal Borough—the fact that for a thousand years the grand circuit of Britain's Historic Fairs begins at Lynn Mart (or Fair) and that it opens out (at the Feast of Valentine, Feb. 14) the Mid-Lent carnivals of the people, is a point of historic interest to all students of the old customs and institutions of the English race. Alderman Jermyn, in his delightful speech at the Showmen's dinner on Wednesday evening, rejoiced that he, when Mayor of Lynn, in 1897, revived the quaint old ceremony of the Proclamation with civic pomp and dignity on the opening day of the chartered fair—this ceremony is now a strong feature of the fair—and the example of Royal Lynn has done much to promote the revival in other towns of proclamation and official opening of the old fairs of England.

Lynn, the Home of the Roundabout.

It was to the late Mr. Savage, founder of the world-famous firm of show novelty engineers, that inventive showmen brought their new notions in mechanically-driven roundabouts, and the skilled mechanic, with rare ability, made the roundabouts that from the seventies of the last century down to the present time have delighted the world. It is here that other makers in other parts of the country have arisen and prospered in the same line of industry; but to Messrs. Savages, Ltd., of King's Lynn, remain the grand distinction of being the supreme head of the now large trade and manufactures of showland throughout the world. It is for this that show people come to Old Lynn every year, to see in actual working perfection the latest and the best productions of the workshops of Savages, Ltd. It is no wonder that the founders and pioneers of show trade defence selected King's Lynn for an annual gathering of the showmen of the Empire. It is no wonder that the Corporation of Lynn honour their showmen guests year by year by civic recognition and patronage, for not only does its chief magistrate preside at the showmen's meeting and is an honoured guest at the showmen's dinner, but the member for Lynn also comes to welcome and encourage the showmen who do so much for one of the leading industries of the town. Mr. Holcombe Ingleby, M.P. for King's Lynn, is also chairman of the board of directors of Savages, Ltd., and because of his firm's intimate business relations with showland takes a keen personal interest in all matters touching show life. The member for Lynn holds a watching brief in Parliament—so to speak—for the travelling showman. At the close of the Guild meeting Mr. Holcombe Ingleby made friendly enquiries from the Guild officials as to the working of the National Insurance Act amongst show people, and he is, we understand, to submit a question in the House of Commons as to medical benefits for workers who must travel from town to town. The Guild has many friends in Parliament, and one of the keenest of them is the kindhearted friend of the showman, the member for Lynn.

The Annual Meeting at Lynn.

The Mayor of Lynn presided at the annual Guild meeting in the historic Town Hall on Wednesday, Feb. 19, and with him were Mr. Holcombe Ingleby, M.P., the Rev. J. C. Vawdrey, Vicar of Lynn, the Rev. T. Horne, Guild chaplain, Mr. T. Watson Wright, Guild Parliamentary solicitor, and Messrs. Howden, Marshall and Sons, C. Thurston, Doubtfire, Westrop, Norman, Sconce, Hibbert, Harniess, T. Clarke, E. W. Whittam, R. Williams, Prince Samouda, and other showmen and traders. There was only a moderate attendance of the general public. This is owing to the satisfactory fact that there is at present no question of attractive or absorbing public interest before showmen. When a burning question like the Movable Dwellings Bill was to the front to engage public sympathy it was easy to fill the Town Hall.

Showmen know that the show-loving public will never fail them in the time of real emergency and danger. The executive committee of the Showmen's Guild do not intend to hold many public meetings this year on that account, but will wisely utilise the quiet days before them in strengthening and extending the organisation.

The Speeches and the Resolution.

Mr. T. Watson Wright, in moving the resolution "That this meeting approves of the work of the Showmen's Guild," said that from 1898 the Guild had strenuously and successfully defeated in Parliament prohibitory and restrictive legislation promoted by corporations and public bodies.

Over one hundred Bills had been introduced into Parliament by local authorities seeking power of restraint and control of the show business in excess of the common law.

All but twenty-eight of these measures had been purged of the drastic clauses by negotiations and agreement without costly process of opposition by petition and appearance by counsel and witnesses.

Twenty-eight Bills had to be vigorously opposed before the Private Bills' Committees of both Houses of Parliament.

Peace at Last.

This year the first since the Guild began its work, there were no measures before Parliament that the executive officials were not able to deal with without costly litigation. As their Parliamentary solicitor, he congratulated them on that significant fact. For the ensuing sessions of Parliament he (the speaker) would have nothing to do. Although this meant loss to him as a lawyer, yet he rejoiced for the Guild's sake that a time of rest from costly work in Parliament had come.

He appealed to those present that as they remembered the grand record of their trade protection society to continue their support. In the time of peace make ready for possible war was a wise maxim, and he commended it to their thoughtful consideration.

The Member for Lynn on Combination.

Mr. Holcombe Ingleby, M.P., seconded the resolution, and declared his hearty appreciation of the Guild and its work. He knew in the business relations of Savages, Ltd., the Lynn firm, of which he was the chairman, that showmen as a class were zealous and good business men, and were, in his judgment, deserving of all the rights and privileges of loyal citizenship. He strongly deprecated class legislation, and the granting to public bodies excessive powers of restraint and control.

Referring to his own experience as a Member of Parliament acting upon committees of the House, he knew how important it was to traders not to allow bad precedents to creep into Acts of Parliament. If once allowed others would follow, and the evil become widespread. He heartily agreed with all Mr. Watson Wright had said with regard to the urgency of trade defence in Parliament, and therefore gladly seconded the motion. The Mayor put the resolution to the meeting, and it was passed with acclamation.

The Guild Chaplain's Address.

The Rev. T. Horne, senior chaplain of the Guild, and organiser, spoke of the religious and educational side of the Guild work. He claimed for the Guild the unique honour of being the only trade union in existence that was working on the model of the ancient Church Trade Guilds. As far as he had helped to build up and to inspire its policy, he had done it in the earnest conviction that the travelling showpeople, by the nature of their wandering life, needed a trade society that would link them up with the Church of God, and provide for the whole life of the people—body, soul, and spirit. This was especially his department of Guild work, in providing the ministry of holy religion on the fairgrounds of the country.

The Co-operation of the Church.

In this work he had the hearty co-operation of the parochial clergy in every centre of the Guild's enterprise. The vicar of Lynn, who was with them that morning, was hon. local chaplain for his own parish, in the heart of which their grand old fair was pitched. When he (the speaker) came to Lynn it was to act as an assistant priest at the parish church, and to hold a service at the fair itself in a show-booth, that tent being pitched upon the fair ground as a chapel-of-ease to the parish church. Another important factor in his side of the work was the defence and vindication of show life when unjustly aspersed in the Press, and in creating an intelligent and informed public opinion.

In doing this work in all its branches he had the assistance of some seventy brother clergy, who, each one in his parish, and neighbour was a friend to show life. These extremely important considerations, in his opinion, justified to the full the claim of the Guild for the whole-hearted and undivided support of the men and women of the fair ground, the itinerant ministrants of the common people in the joy of life. After a reference to some more recent work with corporations seeking to unduly increase fair ground tolls, the chaplain concluded by moving a hearty vote of thanks to the Mayor for presiding, and to Mr. Holcombe Ingleby and the vicar of Lynn for their kind presence and patronage that day. Mr. T. Watson seconded, and put the vote to the meeting, which was carried with great applause.

The Mayor of Lynn's Appreciation

His worship the Mayor, in response, said that he had fully realised the importance of the work of the Guild. He knew, as the president of the Timber Trade Federation of Great Britain, the supreme importance of trade defence work, and whilst he thanked the showmen, and as Mayor welcomed them to Lynn, he desired to assure them of his perfect sympathy with their splendid trade organisation.

Subscriptions, 1913

Mr. Wm. Affleck (hon. mem.), £2 2s.; Mr. Chas. Abbott, £1 1s.; the Prince Samouda, 10s. 6d.; E. Elliott, 10s. 6d.; Messrs. Sconce and Sons (hon. mems.), 10s.; Mr. John Westrop, 5s.

The Roundabout Proprietors and Showmen's Union.

This important union had a full afternoon session numerously attended, and a considerable amount of useful work was done. Mr. George Green, the president, journeyed from Glasgow to Lynn to preside over the meeting. The Rev. T. Horne has taken over the secretaryship of the union in succession to Mr. T. Hurst, who has retired from the show business. Mr. Hurst had been the Union secretary from its organisation in 1902, down to the annual meeting at Manchester in January last, when he resigned his arduous and able work. Some hope was entertained that Mr. Hurst would still carry on the office of hon. secretary to the Showmen's Guild, but this, after careful consideration, he has decided not to do. The office of hon. secretary of the Guild now ceases, and the responsible organiser and chaplain, the Rev. T. Horne, undertakes the whole secretarial work. To the Guild secretary all correspondence must now be sent addressed to "The Era" office, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, London, W.C.

The Trade Dinner.

The annual dinner given by Savages, Ltd., to their customers and friends in the show world took place in the evening in the Grand Banqueting Hall of the Guildhall, Lynn. Mr. Holcombe Ingleby, M.P., presided. The Mayor, the vicar, and several members of the Borough Council were invited to meet the president, chaplain, and executive officials of the trade societies of show land. A full report of the speeches at the banquet is held over for next week's issue of "The Era."

THE STROUD EMPIRE OPENED.

Every available seat was occupied at the opening performance at the Empire, Russell-street, Stroud, on Monday evening, and the finely appointed building was much admired. Before the first item on the programme was announced, the whole audience sang the National Anthem. The items included Little Vera, a child actress, singer and dancer; R. T. Chinn, a clever instrumentalist, with a fine performance upon several concertinas; and a small melodrama by the Three Dimes. The cinematograph portion of the entertainment was excellent, the pictures being remarkably clear and full of interest. A good programme of music was played by a full orchestra, and the opening night altogether proved a happy augury for the success of the Stroud Empire.

The venture is purely a private one on the part of Messrs. J. Bayliss, Wm. Rasbach, and Alf. Kiddle, of the Gloucester City Cinema, and the architect is Mr. W. G. Edward, of Barton-street, Gloucester, the building contractors being Messrs. Wm. F. Drew and Sons, of Chalford, and these gentlemen are to be congratulated on the success of their work. The seating capacity of the building will afford accommodation for 550 persons. There is a large balcony and four private boxes, the former being so constructed as to afford two exits, a unique provision, as far as Stroud and Gloucester are concerned. The whole of the seating consists of tip-up chairs, upholstered in plush. The stage is large enough for all practical purposes, since the bookings, we understand, will embrace both theatrical and variety fare; and on the sloping ground floor are an orchestra, spacious pit, and fauteuils.

The decoration is very effective. In the corridors, &c., the appearance is cosy and inviting, and the fibrous plaster decoration of the interior of the theatre is pleasing.

There are four five-feet exits on the ground floor, the doors being on the check-spring principle, without fastenings of any kind. The gangways and exits are more than equal to the stringent regulations laid down by the London County Council.

There will be two performances nightly—at 6.50 and 8.50—and a matinée on Saturdays.

Monday will signalise the commencement of the last week of the present engagement at the Coliseum of M. Theodore Kosloff, Mlle. Baldina, and the other Imperial Russian dancers in "Scheherazade," the success of which has never been in doubt. The tragic story, set forth with such dramatic force, the impressive music by Tschaikowski, and beautiful mounting, with its picturesque Oriental colouring, are not likely to be forgotten by the lovers of the choreographic art who have crowded the Coliseum.

THEATRICAL LAW.

MR. ROBERT ARTHUR'S AFFAIRS.

In the Court of Bankruptcy on Wednesday the public examination was appointed of Robert Arthur, well known in the theatrical world, the debtor being described as of Park-crescent, N.W., and Regent-street, W. His ranking liabilities were returned at £46,670, and the assets at a net sum of £935, and he had accounted for his deficiency to the extent of £25,000 by interest on borrowed money and £9,000 by loss in connection with the Coronet Theatre.

Mr. Cohen, on behalf of the debtor, asked for an adjournment for two months on account of his client's ill-health.

Mr. Edward A. Bell said that he appeared on behalf of a creditor for £6,542, and had been credibly informed that the debtor had had funds subscribed for him by a few sympathisers, and that he had gone to Monte Carlo with a view to reviving his fortunes. This application for an adjournment was rather opposed.

In reply to the registrar, Mr. E. Leadam Hough, senior official receiver, said that one medical certificate had been received in the course of the proceedings, but that was all. He had, however, been given to understand that the debtor was undoubtedly in a very bad state of health, and appeared to have very little recollection of his transactions.

Mr. Cohen explained that the trustee in bankruptcy was satisfied with regard to the debtor's state of health. He added that if the Court thought it undesirable to have a lengthy adjournment, then would it grant a short adjournment, so that he might come before the Court with evidence regarding the debtor's state of health.

The registrar directed the examination to stand over until March 5, and ordered that any further application for adjournment should be supported by the affidavit of a medical man who should be in attendance for cross-examination if required.

The order of the programme at the Duke of York's has now been re-arranged, "The Twelve Pound Look," Mr. Barrie's one-act comedy, in which Miss Kate Moffat (Bunty) appears as the typist, being played at 9 o'clock, followed at 9.30 by Stanley Houghton's three-act comedy, "The Younger Generation." "Aristide Pujol," Mr. Locke's amusing little play, still retains its position as the first piece.

In addition to the other members of the Cabinet who have visited the Garrick Theatre since the production of "Trust the People," there were recently present the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Solicitor-General, and Mr. Masterman. At the conclusion of the performance, Mr. Lloyd George expressed to Mr. Bourchier his keen appreciation of the merits of Mr. Houghton's play.

A packed house assembled at the Alexandra Theatre, Sheffield on Saturday, to see the last of "Mother Goose," and to speed the parting guests who have worked so hard to brighten the wintry gloom of the past eight weeks. All the performers were loudly applauded, and at the finish of a most exhilarating evening, the proceedings wound up with "three-times-three" for Mr. W. D. Forsdike, the genial managing-director; Mr. C. W. Ramsay, his courteous manager; Mr. Leon Salberg, the proprietor of the pantomime; the band, ballet staff and members of the company.

A large audience filled the King's Theatre, Dundee, on Saturday afternoon, the occasion being a matinée for the assistance of the various local holiday homes which receive Dundee's cripple and invalid children. A particularly enjoyable feature was the appearance of some thirty little ladies, who contributed nine dances, varying from two delightfully quaint and humorous morris dances to the stately minuet à la Cœur, and a lively French quadrille and French reel, all being given with neatness, precision, and vivacity. Songs were rendered by Mrs. J. Whyte, Mr. W. G. Carruthers, and Mr. L. K. Stevenson.

Miss Norah Delaney, who won distinction as principal boy in the Kennington pantomime of "Aladdin," is back again in London after a brief visit to the provinces. She opened a fortnight's engagement at the Palace Theatre on Monday, with a new song, "The rag-time soldier," which she sings with her customary vivacity, and which appeals irresistibly to the patrons of the Shaftesbury-avenue house. In a few weeks Miss Delaney is appearing in her native Manchester.

Miss Marjorie Murray, who is still starring in America, under Mr. W. A. Brady and Messrs. Shuberts' management, had a unique experience recently in Ohio. On her arrival she found a motor-car waiting her at the depôt and was immediately whisked off to a reception and luncheon arranged for the purpose of ascertaining her views on the Women's Suffrage question. Over eighty ladies were waiting to hear those "views," and they were immensely pleased with Miss Murray's declaration of policy, militant and otherwise. Afterwards the ladies, headed by their leader, attended the theatre, witnessed the performance, and expressed their pleasure in no stinted fashion. Miss Murray is at present playing in New York, but expects to return to London in May for a few weeks, afterwards returning to the States for a prolonged engagement in New York, Chicago, Boston, Philadelphia, and other cities.

Apropos of Teddy Payne leaving the Gaiety Theatre after so many years, Mr. Martin Adeson says: "Teddy and I were great chums years ago; in fact, from boys. Many years ago we had some experience on the stage together in pantomime, &c. One day we saw an advertisement in a theatrical paper: 'Wanted, for "Fun on the Bristol," comedians, for Jerry and Widow O'Brien. Apply, — Hall, Folkestone.'" The two aspirants to fame wrote off at once, and were delighted to receive a wire saying "Come on at once." Funds were very low, but each managed to get a few shillings from their parents. With one little basket between them they reached Folkestone, left their basket at the station, and asked for the hall, which they had some difficulty in finding, and when they did, lo! and behold, it was a small room, with a platform, over a pub.

There were no Actors' Association or V.A.F. then, and Mr. Bogus was well to the fore. "We saw, if my memory is right," says Mr. Adeson, "a terrible person, who said no other members had turned up. Could we sing and dance, or play any instrument? There was a troupe of busking niggers in the town; we might all join up and give a good show. We declined with thanks, came away from the Temple of Thespis, looked gloomily at each other, and felt in our pockets. Only a few coppers left. What's to be done? A bright idea! Teddy pledged his waistcoat, and I a little thin overcoat. We walked about the town until the London train was due out, reclaimed our basket, and back to our fond parents. I don't know Teddy's welcome, but when I knocked at the paternal door my dad looked out of the window and exclaimed: 'Good Heavens! He's back again!'"

SCALE OF CHARGES FOR ARTISTES WANTING ENGAGEMENTS And MANAGERS WANTING ARTISTES.

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Each Additional Word, One Penny.

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TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each additional word, One Penny.

MILTON BODE and EDWARD COMPTON'S THEATRES.

WANTED, First-class Companies for
KENNINGTON THEATRE, S.E.,
April 14, June 2, Aug. 4, 11, 18, on.
DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.,
April 14, 21, May 5, 19, 26, Aug. 18, 25, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING,
March 10, 17, 31, April 14, 21, May 5, Aug. 4, 11, 18, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER,
April 21, May 19, Aug. 11, 18, Sept. 1, 8, Oct. 13, Nov. 3, 24, Dec. 8, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.
Dec. 15.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON,
April 14, 21, May 12, Aug. 11, 18, 25, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD,
April 21, May 12, 19, Aug. 11, 18, 25, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON.
March 24, May 12, Aug. 4, 11, 25, Sept. 1, 8, Oct. 6, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER,
May 12, June 2, 16, 23, 30, on.
Address, Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Companies for READING, March 10.
WOLVERHAMPTON, April 14, 21.
Wire, Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

ROYAL ARTILLERY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, WOOLWICH.
Lessee and Manager, Jules Richeux.

WANTED, Wanted, First-class Attractions, May 12, and few Autumn vacancies. Bookings: D'Oyly Carte, "Merry Widow," "Arcadians," "Our Miss Gibbs," "Kismet," "Milestones," "Ready Money," "The Quaker Girl," "Chocolate Soldier," Mrs. Langtry, "Waltz Dream," "Count of Luxembourg," "The Whip," "Glad Eye," "Bunty Pulls the Strings," "Sunshine Girl," "Drake," &c.
Re dates, Jay and Mann.

WANTED, first-class Attractions only for
COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD.
March 17, April 7, 14, May 12, on.
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON.
March 24, April 14, May 12, 19, on.
Address, E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY.
Feb. 24, on to Easter.
Address, Wm. Holland, T.R., Canterbury.

WANTED, two good Stock Companies, on sharing terms, from May 12, onwards, twice nightly, for Luton and Bedford, or arrangements can be made with stage-manager to produce stock.
E. G. Falcon, County T., Bedford.

PIER THEATRE, EASTBOURNE.

WANTED, Wanted, Companies,
March 3,
March 17,
April 7,
and various dates onwards.
Apply, G. Hayes, Pier, Eastbourne.

THEATRE ROYAL, MARGATE.
WANTED, March 17, April 21, on (exceptions), Panto. for Xmas Production.
Weathersby's Agency, 3, Bedford-st., W.C.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, WINDSOR.

WANTED, First-class Attractions for April 7, 14, 21, May 12 (Whit.). Also Autumn. Apply, J. E. Bull, as above.

THEATRE ROYAL, PETERBOROUGH.
Lessee: Lieut.-Colonel Winstanley.

WANTED, Musical Attraction, March 17; Dramatic, April 7, 14 (first three nights). All communications re dates, Adams' Agency, Broadmead House, Panton-street, Haymarket.

KEMBLE THEATRE, HEREFORD.
A Magnificent New Theatre. Holding £100.

WANTED, High-class Attractions.
All communications re dates,
Adams' Agency, Broadmead House,
Panton-street, Haymarket, S.W.
Tel., "Shrieking Charles, London" (counts two words).

THEATRE ROYAL, SWANSEA.
This newly constructed, redecorated, and refurnished theatre is now open for staging the very best productions on the road.

WANTED, Grand Opera, Musical Comedy, High-class Plays, Pantomimes, and every other kind of money-making attraction.
Vacant dates to William Coutts, Proprietor.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, CARLISLE.
Lessee and Manager, Sidney Bacon.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, Oct. 20, on.
Bookings include:—Carl Rosa Opera Co., "Bunty Pulls the Strings," "The Glad Eye," "The Chocolate Soldier," "Milestones," &c.
Address,
Sidney Bacon, 143, Charing Cross-rd., London, W.C.
Telephone, 1456 Gerrard.
Telegrams, "Nocabdis-Ox-London."

HARROGATE AND SCARBOROUGH.
GRAND OPERA HOUSES.

WANTED, First-class Company (Musical preferred), for March 3, 4, 5, Harrogate; March 6, 7, 8, Scarborough. Vacant through obliging manager. Apply, William Peacock, Theatre, Harrogate.

THEATRE ROYAL, NORWICH.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Companies,
March 31, April 21.
March 31, April 21.
March 31, April 21.
Fred Morgan, Manager.

THEATRE ROYAL, SOUTH SHIELDS.

WANTED, Good Attraction for April 14. Vacant through cancelling.
Address, J. W. Coulson, T.R., South Shields.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Companies.
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER. WANTED,
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER.
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER. STAR
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER.
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER. ATTRACTIONS
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER.
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER. FOR
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER.
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER. THE
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER.
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER. FOLLOWING
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER.
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER. DATES,
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER.
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER. ——
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER.
Vacant, March 17, 31, May 5, June 30, July 7, 14, 21, 28, onward, with exceptions.

EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.
(Arrangements complete.)

THEATRE ROYAL, TONYPANDY.
Early Spring Vacancies.

NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
Early Spring Vacancies.

KING'S ELECTRIC THEATRE, BARRY.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.
(Arrangements complete.)

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
Early Spring Vacancies.

Wanted, Large Theatre to produce "Cinderella" Pantomime next Season.
Wanted, to Let, on Royalty, for Stock Season or Tour, several Important Dramas, including "The Prairie Flower," "Our British Empire," &c., &c.
All communications to
Arthur Carlton, Ravenscourt, Worcester.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson.

WANTED, First-class Attraction for April 7, and the three nights commencing April 21. Bookings for spring, 1913, include: "Brewster's Millions," "The Queen Mother," F. R. Benson Co., "The Arcadians," "Babes in the Wood," "Cinderella," "The Glad Eye," "The Chocolate Soldier," "The Silver King," "Man and Superman," "The Girl in the Train," "The Speckled Band," "Hindle Wakes," and "The Count of Luxembourg." Applications for dates,
Hugh Robertson, T.R., Jarrow.

WANTED, First-class Attractions only.
T.R., DUBLIN, April 28.
G.T., DUBLIN, May 19 (?).
O.H., BELFAST, March 17, 24, May 12 (?), 19, 26 (?).
O.H., CORK, April 28, May 5 (?).
G.T., SWANSEA, May 19, June 16, 23, 30.
G.T., SOUTHAMPTON,
T.R., BOURNEMOUTH, March 17 (4 nights).
P.P.T., BRIGHTON, April 7 (?), 21, 28.
HIPPO., DARLINGTON, good twice-nightly Drama, new to Darlington, June 30, July 14.
Apply, The Fredk. Mouillot Offices,
1, King-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

THEATRE ROYAL, LINCOLN.
WANTED, First-class Companies, March 10, April 21, 28, and onwards, with exceptions.

NEW THEATRE, HAWICK.
W. Payne Seddon having re-taken possession of the above Theatre, is open to Book a few Musical Comedies and one or two exceptional Attractions in Twice-nightly Drama in the Autumn.

THE SPA, BRIDLINGTON.
THE SPA, WHITBY.
Wanted, First-class Attractions for few remaining season dates.

THE PAVILION, PENZANCE.
THE PAVILION, NEWQUAY.
Proprietor and Manager, Frederick Dale.
Wanted, Sound Attractions, Aug. 4, and onwards.

All communications, W. Payne Seddon,
10-11, Jermyn-street, London, S.W.
Telephone, Gerrard 6534.
Telegrams, "Sedonitic, London."

THEATRE ROYAL,
THEATRE ROYAL,
THEATRE ROYAL,
THEATRE ROYAL,
LEAMINGTON.
LEAMINGTON.
LEAMINGTON.
LEAMINGTON.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
First-class Companies Only,
First-class Companies Only,
First-class Companies Only,
March 3 (3), March 10 (3),
March 3 (3), March 10 (3),
March 17 (3 or 6), March 31 (6),
March 17 (3 or 6), March 31 (6),
April 14 (3), May 5 (6),
April 14 (3), May 5 (6),
May 22 (3), May 26 (6).
May 22 (3), May 26 (6).
C. S. Birch,
Lessee,
Theatre Royal,
Leamington.

THEATRE ROYAL, PLYMOUTH.
WANTED,
WANTED,
April 14,
April 14,
April 21,
April 21,
May 5,
May 5,
May 26,
May 26.

WANTED, Nothing but Absolute First-class Attractions to write in. The following Recent Receipts will be sufficient guarantee that the Theatre Royal, Plymouth, has at last regained that West of England prestige which it lost some years ago.
Five Weeks' Pantomime, £4 500 (Four Thousand Five Hundred Pounds). Week following, "Peter Pan," £1.194. Six pounds short of Twelve Hundred Pounds.
One-act Dramas of the Very Highest Calibre can be entertained on a certainty for the One House Nightly Season, commencing in May.
Address, in every case, J. M. Glover, Drury Lane Theatre.

SHAKESPEARE THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.

WANTED, Powerful Attractions, Powerful Attractions,
for
Weeks of April 28 and May 5.
Weeks of April 28 and May 5.
Wire or write to
W. W. Kelly.
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

WANTED, High-class Attractions,
March 10, Coronet (Star Company).
March 17, Ipswich (Drama).
March 31, Fulham, Tun. Wells.
April 7, Eastbourne, Tun. Wells.
H. W. Rowland, Coronet Theatre, W.

BOROUGH THEATRE, STRATFORD.
WANTED, Company, March 23, for Easter.
Apply, Fred Fredericks, of the above.

NEW JUVENILE THEATRE, DUMFRIES.
WANTED, Companies, Drama (not melodrama), Farcical Comedy, and Musical Comedy. Three nights only. Seats 1,200. Well equipped stage. 20ft. deep, 40 wide; pros. opening 25; fly 22ft. cloths.
Apply, John Darlison, General-Manager.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, HULL.
WANTED, March 31, April 21, May 12 and 19, and a few summer dates. If new shows, enclose tour for next few weeks. Geo. Morton.

COMPANIES WANTED.

GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic Attractions only, for the above popular Drama Theatre, as follows:—
April 7,
April 14,
April 21,
May 26,
Aug. 4,
Aug. 11,
Aug. 18,
and on, with exceptions.
Write, with full particulars, Moss' Empires, Ltd., Cranbourn-street, London, W.C. Envelopes marked "Theatres."

SEVEN PROGRESSIVE THEATRES.

WANTED, High-class Companies.
CORONET THEATRE, LONDON, W.
March 10, April 21, May 12, 19, June 2, 23.
FULHAM THEATRE, S.W.
March 31, April 14, onwards.
DEVONSHIRE PARK T., EASTBOURNE.
March 17, April 7, 21, 28.
GAIETY THEATRE, HASTINGS.
March 24, April 3 (3), 28, May 12, June 2, 9, 16.
PLEASURE GARDENS, FOLKESTONE.
April 16 (3), 21 (3), 28, June 5 (3), 9, onwards
OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS.
March 31 to May 12.
LYCEUM THEATRE, IPSWICH.
March 17, April 28, May 5 (3), 19, 26
Apply, H. W. Rowland, Coronet Theatre, W.

MORTON POWELL THEATRES.

WANTED, Wanted, Powerful Plays.
BRITANNIA THEATRE, LONDON.
Spring Dates.
BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Spring.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNWORTH.
March 3, 10, 17.

Morton Powell, Britannia Theatre, London.

WANTED, Pretoria, Okehampton; holds 300 (main line, Exeter-Plymouth); scenery, piano, electric light; 65 per cent. to 80 per cent. Tel. address, "Vide," Okehampton.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SWINDON.
WANTED, First-class Productions, Musical Comedy, Drama, or Variety, April 7, 14, May 19, 26, June 9, 16, onwards, with exceptions. Also good Musical, Dramatic, or Variety Productions, for Garrison Theatre, Tidworth, Feb. 17, 24, on.
Address, Alfred Manners, Empire Theatre, Swindon.

THE NEW RINK THEATRE, WREXHAM.
Now open for staging the first productions.
Stage, 50 by 40. Pros. opening, 30ft.
Bookings for Summer and Autumn.
WANTED, First-class Companies only.
Write
W. Wood Winstanley, Manager,
Re dates, &c.

GRAND THEATRE, RHYL.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Whit Week, July 14, and on.
Bookings and pencillings include:
Mr. George Edwardes' "Merry Widow" (two visits), "The Girl in the Train," "The Balkan Princess," "The Arcadians," "The Dancing Mistress," "The Dollar Princess," "The Chocolate Soldier," "The Glad Eye," "Bunty Pulls the Strings," "A Butterfly on the Wheel," "The Speckled Band," "Milestones," "Little Miss Llewelyn," &c., &c.
Address, Charles M. Julian, Manager.
Hippodrome, Wigan.

BRIXTON THEATRE, S.W.
WANTED, Attraction, March 17, 24, and on.
Fredk. Melville, Lyceum Theatre, W.C.

OPERETTA HOUSE, CLACTON-ON-SEA.
WANTED, First-class Attractions.
Only vacant dates, July 7, 14, 21 Aug. 21 (3 nights), Sept. 18 (3 nights), 22, 29. Bookings and pencillings include: Carl Hertz, "Glad Eye" (return), "Jelf's," "Dust of Egypt," "Witness for the Defence," "Milestones," "Cingalee." "Quaker Girl," "Gay Lord Quex," &c.
A. E. Abrahams,
73, Romford-road, Stratford, E.

REPERTORY THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
A few vacant dates at the above First-class Theatre May 19, onwards.

WANTED, First-class Companies.
Offers invited.
Melodramas excepted.
Apply, Basil Dean, General Manager.

CHIPPENHAM, WILTS.
NEELD PUBLIC HALL.

WANTED, Good Musical or Dramatic Companies, one night or two nights (Friday and Saturday). Accommodation, 800. Good dressing and ante-rooms. Apply, Secretary.

WANTED, High-class Attractions, March 6, 7, 8, March 10 (?), Easter (?), March 27, 28, 29, April 7, 14, 21, 28, Oct. 6, 13, 20, 27. This month's bookings include "Hindle Wakes," "The Barrier," "What Happened to Jones," "Leah Kleschna," "With Edged Tools," &c. Apply, Frank Wolsey, Lighthouse Pavilion, Hoylake.

COMPANIES WANTED.

THEATRE ROYAL, BRIGHTON.
WANTED, First-class Attractions April 7, May 26, June 2, July 28.
Address, Lawson Lambert, as above.

KING'S AND WIMBLEDON THEATRE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for March and 31 (possibly March 24 also). Only companies entertained.
Address, Mr. Mulholland, Wimbledon.

NEW OPERA HOUSE, DUNFERMLINE.
A modern theatre, complete in every detail. Tip up seats throughout, with exception of Own electric plant—volts 110. The only house in West Fife. Population of city 3 enormous outside district linked up by cars. The immense new Naval Base at Rosyth within the Burgh boundaries. The gross takings since opening have averaged £279 per week, ranging from £617 (with pantomime) to £147 (with varieties).
WANTED, Known, Vacant March 31, April 14, 28, and a few in Autumn; musical comedy or farce preferred (no melodramas).
Address, Henry Hare, O.H., Dunfermline.

THEATRE ROYAL
ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

WANTED, First-class Attractions for Sept. 29. Oct. 6, onwards, with exception Next Season's Bookings include:—
Mr. George Edwardes' Companies.
"Bunty Pulls the Strings" (return), "Princes Caprice," "Hindle Wakes" (third visit), "The Girl in the Taxi," "Milestones," &c.
Address, Charles Revill, T.R., Stockport.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted
First-class Dramatic Attractions,
First-class Dramatic Attractions,
First-class Dramatic Attractions,
for
April 7
and
Whit Week next.
Apply,
Grand Theatre, Brighton.
Please take silence as a polite refusal.

STANLEY, DURHAM, ROYAL, LTD.
WANTED, Attractions, March 10, 17, April 7, 14, 28, and on, with exceptions, Musical or Variety Combinations preferred. Apply, Mark H. Lindon.

LEON VINT'S THEATRES.

WANTED, First-class Companies.
HIPPODROME, NEATH.
March 13 (3 nights), April 7, 21, 28, May 5, 19, on.
PRINCE OF WALES, NUNEATON.
March 31, April 7, 14, May 5.
HIPPODROME, RUGBY.
April 7, Aug. 4, onwards.
HIPPODROME, PORT TALBOT.
Sept. 1, 8, 22, 29, Oct. 20.
All communications to James J. Welch, c/o Leon Vint, 142, Long-acre, London, W.C.

INVERNESS.
WANTED, Companies touring Scotland, book Inverness Music Hall, September onwards. Vacant for New Year week. Manager, Munro Todd.

ROTUNDA THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
Twice Nightly.
WANTED, Strong Dramatic Attraction March 17.
Share or Certainty.
Apply, Matthew Montgomery.

WANTED, through disappointment First-class Company for March 3.
Wire, Horner, Victoria, Burnley.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales Theatre Salford, First-class Companies, for April and on, including Whit week. Address, E. Goulden.

NEW CENTURY THEATRE, MOTHERWELL.
WANTED, Strong Dramatic Attractions, March 24, 31, April 14, and onward, with exceptions; also Autumn.
Full particulars, John A. Walker.

PALACE THEATRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

WANTED, Wanted, Powerful Attractions, Twice Nightly,
April 28, June 9, 30.
Apply, T. W. Rowe.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Companies,
METROPOLE THEATRE, GATESHEAD.
March 31, April 7 and 14.
THEATRE ROYAL, NORTH SHIELDS.
March 31.
OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON.
March 10, 24, 31, April 14.
GRAND THEATRE, LANCASTER.
April 7, 28, May 5, 19, 26.
Stanley Rogers, T.R., North Shields.

GAIETY THEATRE, AYR.
WANTED, First-class Companies, April 21 and May 5. Powerful attraction, July 14 (Fair and Race Week), 21, 28, Aug. 4, and autumn.
Harry W. Day.

GORE OUSELEY'S PREDOMINANT PRODUCTION
of the HAUNTING
CINGALEE
From Daly's Theatre.
WANTED, THEATRES and HALLS.

Once Nightly.	Twice Nightly.
WANTED!!!	WANTED!!!
April 14th.	June 9th.
April 14th.	June 9th.
April 14th.	June 9th.
April 14th.	June 9th.
To follow:	To precede:
Theatre Royal, Brighton.	Empire, Croydon.
Grand Theatre, Fulham.	Hippodrome, Willesden.
Artillery, Woolwich.	Hippodrome, Richmond.

GORE OUSELEY, 50, Rupert Street, W.
Manager, E. P. MORGAN. 'Phone—Regent 2286 Wire, "Ouseley, London."

"A SULTAN FOR A NIGHT"
OR
"TURKISH DELIGHT."
Written by PERCY FORD. Music by ALBERT WHIPP, Mus.Bac.
A MUSICAL COMEDY SKETCH. In two Scenes. Plays thirty minutes.
PRODUCTION SHORTLY.
GORE OUSELEY, 50, Rupert Street, W. General Manager - E. P. MORGAN.
'Phone, Regent 2286. Wires, "Ouseley, London."

WANTED! WANTED!! WANTED!!!
"ANN."
DATES. DATES.
The Latest Criterion Success, with MISS MADGE CRICHTON in the *title rôle*.
GORE OUSELEY, 50, Rupert Street, W. 'Phone, Regent 2286. Wires, "Ouseley, London."
or HALDANE CRICHTON, 4, Park Place, St. James's, S.W.

"THE GOLD DIGGERS"
OR
"THE BROKEN TRAIL."
THE MOST VIVID DRAMA EVER WRITTEN.
Once or Twice Nightly.
GORE OUSELEY, 50, Rupert Street, W. E. P. MORGAN, General Manager.
'Phone, Regent, 2286. Wires "Ouseley, London."

COMPANIES WANTED.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, Dramatic Attraction, March 17.
Wanted, Dramatic Attraction, March 17.
Wanted, Dramatic Attraction, March 17.

Address, T. Allan Edwardes.

ROYAL PALACE THEATRE, RAMSGATE.
WANTED, First-class Musical Comedies for Aug. 11, 12, 13, Aug. 25, 26, 27, Sept. 4, 5, 6, and Sept. 11, 12, 13, three nights each.
Apply, W. J. Attack.

NEW THEATRE, OXFORD.
WANTED, April 28, 29, 30, May 29, 30, 31, June 2, 3, 4, June 16 (3 or 6 nights).
Apply, G. T. Lucas, Man.-Director.
Managers of first-class companies need only apply.

WANTED, First-class Dramatic Companies, immediate dates,
for twice-nightly Large Suburban London Theatre.
All communications, Somerald and Co., 17/19, Great Windmill-street, London.

KURSAAL THEATRE, BOGNOR.
The Largest and Best Theatre for 15 miles round.
WANTED, First-class Attractions.
Nothing too large or too good.
Musical Comedies, &c., for
EASTER WEEK,
WHIT WEEK,
and
Several Season Dates in June, July, August, and September.
Write, H. Reading,
Manager, Kursaal, Bognor.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE MONK AND THE WOMAN."
WANTED, Wanted, March 31, April 7, May 5, 12, and on.
Fredk. Melville, Lyceum Theatre, W.C.

"DRIVEN FROM HOME."
WANTED, March 10, 17, 24.
Andrew Melville, Empire T., Holloway, N.

Alexandre Dumas' Masterpiece,
"MONTE CRISTO,"
from the New Princes Theatre, W.C.
The entire production carried.
WANTED, March 10, 31, May 5.
Andrew Emm, Princes Theatre W.C.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Wanted,
for this Phenomenal Attraction,
Weeks of May 26 and June 2.
Weeks of May 26 and June 2.
Weeks of May 26 and June 2.
Wire or write to
W. W. Kelly,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

"THE NEW EAST LYNNE."
The Most Successful Version ever Written.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Wanted,
Weeks of March 24 and 31.
Weeks of March 24 and 31.
Once or twice nightly.
Wire or write to
W. W. Kelly,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
WANTED, Wanted, Theatres or Halls, March 17, 24, onward.
Big Company. Full Chorus. Real Negro Specialties.
All the special scenery and printing.
Charles Harrington,
Pier Theatre, Eastbourne.

"EAST LYNNE."
WANTED, Theatres, March 17, March 27 (3 nights), April 14, May 12, June 2, 23, 30, July 28, Aug. 4, 11, 25.
Also several in Autumn.
J. Pitt-Hardacre,
14, Railway-terrace, Treherbert

MR. BULMER'S ENTERPRISES.
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"SENTENCED FOR LIFE."
"WHEN WOMAN HATES."
"DEADWOOD DICK."
"THE PRICE OF HER SOUL."
"FOR AULD LANG SYNE."
"THE HOUR OF HER TRIUMPH."
"A MODERN MAGDALEN."
"MAN AND HIS PARAMOUR."
"WIFE OR MISTRESS?"
"THE GIRL FROM LEICESTER SQUARE."
WANTED, Theatre for Stock Season.
Theatre for Stock Season.
Theatre for Stock Season.
FRED. BULMER,
Managers' Club, 5, Wardour-street, London, W.

"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."
EUGENE C. STAFFORD'S No. 1 CO.
WANTED, First-class Theatres for above, from Easter onwards. Would rent a good Provincial Theatre. Letters, Stafford, Biddenden, Kent.

"DIANA OF DOBSON'S."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, March 10, 31, April 21, 28, May 5. Entire actual Kingsway Theatre production. Bookings include all principal provincial and suburban theatres.
Harold V. Neilson, Nordrach, Blagdon, Bristol.

Ireland's Representative Comedian,
CHALMERS MACKEY,
in
"THE WEARIN' O' THE GREEN."
"ROLLICKING RORY."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
No Vacant Dates
till Spring, 1914.
Feb. 24, T.R., Middlesbrough.

"THE INDIAN SCOUT."
WANTED, March 31 (only vacant date this tour), to follow T.R., Leeds. Money turned away Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday at Grand Theatre, West Hartlepool. Refer Mr. Stanley Rogers. Selected by Mr. Oswald Stoll for production at the Middlesex, March 3.
Splendidly received by two packed houses here on Monday. Big business at Grand, Stockton. Refer Mr. Walter Batty. Wanted, March 31, Aug. 4, 11. Geo. A. De Gray, to-day, T.R., South Shields; Monday, T.R., Jarrow.

"THE 10.30 DOWN EXPRESS."
WANTED, April 14, 21, to follow Nottingham, Mansfield, Worksop, Bangor, Gloucester, Dublin, and precede Aston, Smethwick, Canning Town, Hammersmith, Elephant, &c.
Horace Stanley. To-day, Coalville.
Next, Grand, Nottingham.

MADGE CRICHTON in "ANN."
WANTED, March 24, April 7, May 12, June 2.
Haldane Crichton, 4, Park-place, St. James's, S.W.

"THE DUST OF EGYPT"
and "AFTER THE OPERA."
WANTED, dates, March 24 (between return Hastings and return Brighton), April 14 and 21 (North or Midlands). George Waters, 4, Park-place, St. James-st., W.

FRANK BERTRAM'S COMPANIES.
WANTED, Easter Week, March 24, Aug. 4, and Various Autumn Dates for
"THROUGH DEATH VALLEY;
OR,
THE MORMON PERIL."
June 23, Sept. 15, 22, for
"THE TEXAS RANGER."
Bertram, 5, Gilmore-road, Lewisham, S.E.

THEATRES WANTED.

ARTHUR HINTON AND LEILA ZILLWOOD'S COMPANIES.
ARTHUR HINTON AND LEILA ZILLWOOD'S COMPANIES.

THE ORIGINAL AND THE BEST.

A COLUMN OF WINNERS.

GOOD WINE NEEDS NO BUSH.

"ALLAH'S ORCHARD."
"ALLAH'S ORCHARD."
By Miss Emma Litchfield.

WANTED, Big Theatres,
May 19, 26,
May 19, 26,
May 19, 26,
May 19, 26,
June 9, 16, 23,
June 9, 16, 23,
June 9, 16, 23,
June 9, 16, 23,
and onwards.
and onwards.
Autumn Nearly Filled.

The Ideal Twice Nightly Attraction.

This is without doubt the Finest Spectacular Production ever attempted beyond the precincts of the West-End.

Costumes, Scenery, and General Mounting Unsurpassed.

Bevy of Beautiful Women.

Musical-Director.

In brief, absolutely the last word in up-to-date enterprise.

Managers Delighted.

Managers please note that owing to the enormous success of "Allah's Orchard," this play will be toured right through the summer. Those with Vacant Dates please communicate for this very strong attraction.

Messrs. HINTON and ZILLWOOD
wish to
assure
Managers
that
"ALLAH'S ORCHARD"
is
THE
Success of 1913.

Thanks to Mr. Otto C. Culling for contracts after seeing "Allah's Orchard." Also to Mr. H. Pennington and Mr. Chas. Bush. These three gentlemen booking this show after seeing it is proof whether it is a winner or not.

Re Dates.
ARTHUR HINTON,
This, Empire, Wakefield.
Next, GRAND, ACCRINGTON.

"HIS INDIAN WIFE."
"HIS INDIAN WIFE."
By Miss Emma Litchfield.

WANTED, Wanted, Theatres,
April 14, 21,
April 14, 21,
April 14, 21,
May 5, 26,
May 5, 26,
May 5, 26,
June 2, 9, 16,
June 2, 9, 16,
June 2, 9, 16,
and onwards.
and onwards.
and onwards.

"KING OF THE GIPSIES."
"KING OF THE GIPSIES."
By Miss Emma Litchfield.

Wanted, Theatres,
Wanted, Theatres,
Wanted, Theatres,
Wanted, Theatres,
Wanted, Theatres,
Wanted, Theatres,
March 17.
March 17.
March 17.
Aug. 11,
Aug. 11,
Aug. 11,
Sept. 1, 15, 22,
Sept. 1, 15, 22,
Sept. 1, 15, 22,
Oct. 13,
Oct. 13,
Oct. 13,
Nov. 24,
Nov. 24,
Nov. 24,
Dec. 15, 22.
Dec. 15, 22.
Dec. 15, 22.

ARTHUR HINTON and LEILA ZILLWOOD
Wish to inform Managers they have secured
"A CLEVER IMPOSTOR,"
"A CLEVER IMPOSTOR,"
by the talented Authoress,
Miss Emma Litchfield.
Production,
LYRIC, HAMMERSMITH, Feb. 24.
Everything travelled, including a Horse.
Wanted, Dates,
Wanted, Dates,
May 5, May 12, and onwards.
May 5, May 12, and onwards.
NEW PRODUCTION.
NEW PRODUCTION.
Aug. 1913.
Aug. 1913.
Title will be announced later.
If you see it in a Hinton and Zillwood advert. it is so.
Re Dates.
Mr. G. MORETON-WILLIAMS,
"Holmdene," 3, River Bank, Hampton Court.
Telephone, 1732 Kingston-on-Thames.

THEATRES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Dates,
"BROUGHT TO RUIN."
March 10, 17, 24,
Morton Powell, Britannia Theatre, London, N.

"GIRL WITHOUT A HOME."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Dates,
This Strong Attraction,
Aug. 4, 11, 18.
Morton Powell, Britannia Theatre, London, N.

"GIRL'S TEMPTATION."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Dates,
This Powerful Play,
March 10, 17, 24,
Morton Powell, Britannia Theatre, London, N.

"TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Dates,
March 10, 17, 24.
Morton Powell, Britannia Theatre. London, N.

"MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Dates,
March 10, 17, 24,
Morton Powell, Britannia Theatre, London, N.

"A FATAL CROWN."
WANTED, First-class Theatres or Halls,
March 17 (?), 31.
March 17 (?), 31.
Record Business Everywhere.
The Greatest Twice-nightly Attraction Touring. Over Fifty People Staged.
Wire,
James Bell, Theatre Royal, Darlington.

HERBERT FULLER'S PLAYS AND TOURS.
"AS YOUR HAIR GROWS WHITER."
WANTED, Known, Vacant March 17 (?), 24, April 28, May 5, June 2, 9, 16, 23, July 21, 28, Aug. 25, and various on; cast of 15. "MOTHERLESS." Vacant June 9, 16, 23, 30, July 21, 28, Aug. 4, 11, 25, and various on; entire productions carried. "ALADDIN," Wanted, Production, and various on; Gorgeous production; guarantee 50.
T.R., Woolwich; next, O.H., Torquay.

LENA STANTON'S
"CINDERELLA" PANTOMIME.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Known,
Vacant, March 17.
All coms., Alex. T., Belfast.

"THE WITNESS FOR THE DEFENCE."
WANTED, March 24, 31, April 21, May 5, 26.
Entire Production Carried.
Weathersby's Agency, 3, Bedford-st., W.C.

"WHAT A MAN MADE HER."
By Charles Darrell.
WANTED, Immediate and Future Dates.
Weathersby's Agency, 3, Bedford-st., W.C.

"NOBODY'S DAUGHTER."
WANTED, March 10, on (follow Brighton).
Entire Production Carried. Weathersby's Agency, 3, Bedford-st., W.C.

"THE BLINDNESS OF VIRTUE."
WANTED, March 3, on (follow Margate).
Production Carried.
Weathersby's Agency, 3, Bedford-st., W.C.

"A CIGARETTE MAKER'S ROMANCE."
WANTED, March 3, on (follow Weymouth).
Weathersby's Agency, 3, Bedford-st., W.C.

WANTED, First-class Theatres for
MINSTRELS.
MINSTRELS.
MINSTRELS
MINSTRELS.
This class of entertainment has come to stay, and while it is here have the best.
No chair warmers. No supers.
Every one of this Troupe is an Artiste and a Performer.
A Double Quartette.
Double Sets of Comedians.
Double Sets of Dancers.
Proprietors and Managers note that everything is carried, including my own Conductor.
First vacant date Oct. 6, and onwards.
Shares or certainty.
All letters to W. J. Churchill, Llandudno.

H. V. Esmond and Eva Moore's Company.
"ELIZA COMES TO STAY."
A Farcical Comedy in 3 Acts, by H. V. Esmond.
The Present Criterion Success.
WANTED, Managers to Send their Vacant Season Dates, Aug. onward, for this great London success to
Ernest Benham, Criterion Theatre, W.
No. 1 Company will include H. V. Esmond and Eva Moore and full London production.

"HINDLE WAKES."
The Play that is Breaking Records Everywhere.
Now Booking Summer and Autumn.
WANTED, March 17, 31, April 7, May 5 (North).
All applications, Edwin T. Heys,
Mile End, Stockport.

WANTED, Wanted, Theatres for
JEANNE DI RAMO,
the Eminent Italian Tragedienne,
supported by First-class London company, in
"THE QUEEN OF THIEVES; OR,
MASTER OF MILLIONS," by Geo. E. Clive.
Special Scenery and Printing.
Tour under the direction of Charles W. Johnson.
Vacant, Easter, and few after dates.
Address, re dates only, Herbert Ralland,
Daly's Theatre Buildings, 32, Lisle-street, W.C.

WANTED, Easter Week, for
"PROUD MAISIE,"
By Edward G. Hemmerde.
Management of Mr. Arthur Hardy.
Vernon Steel, Laura Cowie.
London Company Sixty. Increased Orchestra.
Pipers, Harpist, Magnificent Scenery, Costumes.
Second week, Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh.
Unqualified praise from whole local press.
Wire, Robinson,
General-Manager, as above, until March 1.

"THE BLACKGUARD OF THE QUEEN'S REGIMENT." Star Cast.
WANTED, Wanted, April 14, 14, 14.
E. Hill-Mitchelson, Rotunda, Liverpool.

"NICK CARTER, DETECTIVE."
"NICK CARTER, DETECTIVE."
WANTED, March 31, April 7, 14, May 5 (North), and a few Autumn.
To witness a performance of "Nick Carter, Detective," is most exhilarating.—"Bedford Press." Carried the audience, hearts and hands. The acting is marked by cultured finish throughout.—"Weymouth Standard."
"In a Man's Power." Wanted, May 26, June 9 (Lancs or Yorks). J. Forbes Knowles, St. George's Theatre, Falmouth.

"ALIAS JIMMY VALENTINE"
and
"SHERLOCK HOLMES."
WANTED. First-class Theatres, for March 31, April 7, 14, 21.
Hamilton Stewart, Queen's Music Hall, Poplar, E.

WANTED, March 17, 24, April 7 and 28, for Gerard Wynne, in "Nell Gwynne" and "David Garrick." Apply, R. T. Crawford, 23, Inglis-road, Ealing, W.

"MRS. DANE'S DEFENCE."
"THE LIARS." "JOSEPH ENTANGLED,"
By Henry Arthur Jones.
WANTED, March 3 (follow P.P.T., Brighton), March 10, onwards, with exceptions.
Cast includes Mabel Mannering. Address, Millar Anderson, to-day, T.R., Ashton-under-Lyne.
Next, P.P.T., Brighton.

THEATRES WANTED.

MR. and MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S CO.'S.
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THE PRAIRIE OUTLAW.
By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
North Company vacant March 10, April 7. Only vacant dates until Autumn, which is rapidly booking. South Company, Spring fully booked. Vacant August 4, 11, few late Autumn.
This Play guaranteed the finest dressed and mounted Indian Play on the road. Will live, as it has a strong dramatic plot. Two Companies nearly full 1913, and now booking 1914. Refer to Messrs. Percy B. Broadhead; T. W. Rowe, Palace, Newcastle; J. Coulson, S. Shields; Leon Salberg, Alex., Birmingham, &c., &c

THE WILD GIRL OF THE FOREST.
By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
Guaranteed one of the best mounted military plays on the road.
More New Beautiful Uniforms just being added, Scenery, &c.
Vacant March 17.
Vacant March 17.
Vacant March 17.
Only Vacant Dates until Autumn.
Only Vacant Dates until Autumn.
Only Vacant Dates until Autumn.

WAS SHE TO BLAME?
By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
Vacant Few Summer and Autumn Dates.
Vacant Few Summer and Autumn Dates.
Vacant Few Summer and Autumn Dates.

HER PATH OF SORROW.
By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
Vacant Few Summer and Autumn Dates.
Vacant Few Summer and Autumn Dates.
Vacant Few Summer and Autumn Dates.
August Bank Holiday and Xmas Settled.
August Bank Holiday and Xmas Settled.
August Bank Holiday and Xmas Settled.

MRS. F. C. KIMBERLEY'S NEW PRODUCTION.
Production Aug. 18, at the Junction, Manchester, With the Broadhead Circuit to follow.
Title to be known later.

THE BOY DETECTIVE.
By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
Production, Whit week, King's, Longsight. Mr. and Mrs. Harry Lyndon's Company.
Many thanks to Mr. Percy B. Broadhead for all his theatres.

THEATRE ROYAL, WOLVERHAMPTON.
Lessee and Manager, F. G. Kimberley.
Vacant March 17, Aug. 11.
Vacant March 17, Aug. 11.
Vacant March 17, Aug. 11.
This is the Dramatic Theatre of the Town.
Business better each year.

J. NEWTON COWLING'S TOUR.
THE COLLIER'S LASS.
By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
Two companies on the road of this great success.
Both equal.
North. Co. Vacant Whit.
North. Co. Vacant Whit.
North. Co. Vacant Whit.
South Co. Vacant Whit week.
South Co. Vacant Whit week.
South Co. Vacant Whit week.
Managers of South and Welsh Towns who are afraid of booking this piece are requested to refer to Palace, Bordesley; then T.R., Stratford, where it did enormous; and T.R., Woolwich, and Star, Swansea. Whether North, South, East, or West this Play breaks records. Guaranteed the biggest dramatic success on the road to-day.

HER SECRET LOVER.
By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
Vacant Few Summer Dates.
Vacant Few Summer Dates.
Vacant Few Summer Dates.
Managers needing good, sound, honest attractions, book
Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's Plays.
Write for name to
F. G. Kimberley,
Theatre Royal, Wolverhampton.

THEATRES WANTED.

All Coms. Addressed to
H. MONTAGUE ASHLEY AND CAMPBELL GOLDSMID'S COMPANIES.
All private coms. re biz. will not be entertained.
"WITH EDGED TOOLS."
Henry Seton Merriman's Masterpiece.
(By arrangement with Armitage and Leigh.)
WANTED, Dates, for this Great Attraction, as follows: March 31 (North preferred), April 21, 28, May 5 (South or Midlands), Aug. 11 (follow Kelly's, Liverpool), Sept. 8, 15 (North Scotland preferred), Oct. 20, 27, Nov. 3 (Wales or South).
Grand Autumn Production,
"UNDER THE CANOPY."
By J. James Hewson.
The Great Russo-Jewish Play, of Intense Dramatic Interest.
Production date,
Lyric, Hammersmith, Aug. 25.
Vacant Dates:—
Sept. 1 (South), 15, 29 (South or Wales), Oct. 20, 27, Nov. 10 (follow Stratford), Dec. 8, and Xmas.
Cast and Production second to none.
Maud Morton Powell as Naomi and Campbell Goldsmid as General Ivan Petramo.
All coms., to-day, Opera House, Blackpool.
Next week, Hippo., Wednesbury.

MISS HILDA BEVERLEY,
in
"THE WHITE GIRL SLAVE."
"THE WHITE GIRL SLAVE."
By Joseph M. Wharncliffe.
THE SUCCESS OF THE YEAR.
This week at the
THEATRE ROYAL, STRATFORD.
MONEY TURNED AWAY IN ALL PARTS OF THE HOUSE ON MONDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, and THURSDAY.
THURSDAY NIGHT HOUSE PACKED AT EARLY DOORS. HUNDREDS UNABLE TO GAIN ADMISSION.
Thanks Mr. Morton Powell and Mr. Wallie Rice for offers.
Every Manager who has seen the play has booked it at once.
DRAMATIC RECORDS BROKEN IN EVERY TOWN VISITED.
WANTED, Wanted, Sept. 8, 15, Oct. 22, 29, Dec. 22.
MISS HILDA BEVERLEY,
To-day, T.R., Stratford; next, G.T., Burnley.

GEORGE N. BALLANGER'S
Latest American Production,
"THE ROUND UP."
The Real Thing in Cowboy Melodrama.
WANTED, Big Theatres or Music Halls, for March 10,
April 28, May 5, and 12 (?),
Aug. 4, and various onwards.
A beautiful scenic production. Powerful company. Everything carried. A clear stage only required.
March 10 vacant.
March 10 vacant.
Wire for March 10.
Geo. E. Carleton.
This, T.R., Sheffield. Next, P.O.W., Salford.

"A TRIP TO CHINATOWN."
The Famous Strand Theatre Musical Comedy.
WANTED, July 7, 14, 21 (?) (Seaside), Aug. 4 and 18,
Sept. 1 and 29 (North).
Magnificent Cast. Beautifully Mounted.
Harold Wagner, Metropole Theatre, Bootle.

GEORGE N. BALLANGER'S CO.
Young Buffalo
and
Caroline May Blaney in
"KING OF THE WILD WEST."
(Once or Twice Nightly.)
WANTED, May 5 and 12; a few Autumn dates.
Coms., Frank Mundill, Empire, Swindon.
Next, Alhambra, Openshaw.

WANTED, First-class Theatres,
"PASSERS-BY."
Sept. 1, 8, 15, 22, Oct. 6, 20.
North and Midland.
Apply, Leslie Moreton,
1 and 2, King-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

EDWARD LLOYD AND CLIFFORD BOWN'S COMPANIES.
"THE OLD FOLKS AT HOME."
WANTED, March 3 (3 nights), March 10, 24,
"MAN TO MAN."
Wanted, April 21, Sept. 1, 8.
Edward Lloyd, Royal Varieties, Rushden.

"KIT CARSON."
WANTED, March 10 (through transferring, to oblige), also March 31; both as near as possible to Longden. C. H. Longden, 28, Cardiff-road, Luton.

"THE SORROWS OF SATAN"
and
"NANA, THE RAGE OF PARIS."
WANTED, March 10 and 24 (Easter), Precede and follow T.R., Belfast.
Fifth Visit.
Although Booked for Repertoire Week, at Hippodrome, Stockton, after first performance of "The Sorrows of Satan," Miss Esmond was asked if she would play same all the week.
Special printing announcing the "Enormous Success" being issued by Mr. Harry Burns.
Several Immediate Dates Vacant.
First-class Halls or Theatres. Once or Twice Nightly.
Loie Esmond.
To-day, Hippodrome, Stockton-on-Tees.
Feb. 24, PAVILION, HOYLAKE.

"THE AMAZONS."
By Arthur Pinero.
The Great Farcical Success from the Duke of York's Theatre, London.
Preceded by "THE SERGEANT OF HUSSARS,"
By Cicely Hamilton.
WANTED, March 31 (3), between Cheltenham and Harrogate; July 28, between Blackpool and Scarborough; Aug. 11, on.
Address, Alfred Gray, Opera House, Coventry.

WILL H. GLAZE'S TOURS.
The Mascot Drama,
"NO MOTHER TO GUIDE HER,"
By Nita Rae.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
April 7 (to precede Brighton),
May 19 (to follow Leeds),
June 30 (London preferred).
"BREAKING A WOMAN'S HEART"
(under the direction of Richard A. Greene).
Vacant, April 7, 14, Whit, Aug. 4, and various Autumn.
Autumn Production,
"THE PRINCESS AND THE SAILOR,"
By Eva Elwes.
All coms., Will H. Glaze, T.R., Sunderland.

Mr. and Mrs. Wilson Benge and Co.,
"THE COWBOY'S REVENGE."
WANTED, Easter week, March 31, April 14 (between Gloucester and London), also Aug. B.H. Booked at the best dramatic theatres. Letters and wires, T.R., Swansea.

"THE GIRL OF MY HEART."
Best previous visit last week, Metropole, Glasgow.
WANTED, March 10 (North), Easter, April 28, Whit, and Autumn.
To-day, Paisley. Next, Motherwell. Ad., Leonard.

Harry Bristow and May Forde's "I Defy the World."
WANTED, Good Theatres, March 24, 31, April 7, 21. Wire for March 24. To-day, Hippo., Bilston. Feb. 24, Pavilion T., Earlestown, Lancs.

ARTISTES WANTED.

"THE CINGALEE."
WANTED, Nanoya; must have powerful, high Soprano voice; tour commences early in March. Goes right through Summer and Autumn. Gore Ouseley, 50, Rupert-street, W.

"THE CINGALEE."
WANTED, Vereker; tour commences early in March. Goes right through Summer and Autumn. Gore Ouseley, 50, Rupert-street, W.

"THE CINGALEE."
WANTED, Bobbie; tour commences early in March. Goes right through Summer and Autumn. Gore Ouseley, 50, Rupert-street, W.

"THE CINGALEE."
WANTED, Sir Peter; tour commences early in March. Goes right through Summer and Autumn. Gore Ouseley, 50, Rupert-street, W.

"THE CINGALEE."
WANTED, Wanted, Tenor Choristers. Tour commences early in March. Goes right through Summer and Autumn. Gore Ouseley, 50, Rupert-street, W. E. P. Morgan, Manager.

WANTED, Artiste, Lady, Young, Clear Articulation, Lead West-End Production, Comedy, by well-known author. Financial Interest Essential.

Stage aspirants need not communicate. Banker's reference given and required.

Producer, 1, Hinde-street, Manchester-square, W.

WANTED, Young, Pretty, Ingénue, for Kitty Brent, in "Diana of Dobson's." Full particulars, photo, H. V. Neilson, Nordrach, Blagdon, Bristol.

WANTED, Robust, Leading, Heavy Man. First-class artistes only. Write, with photos and all particulars, to T. E. Ward, Hippodrome, Birkenhead.

WANTED, First-class Leading Man; one used to military parts. Only clever artistes write, with photos and full particulars, to T. E. Ward, Hippodrome, Birkenhead.

WANTED, First-class Smart Baritone, for Musical Act. Write, stating full particulars, to E. C., 8, Angell-road, Brixton.

"CLAUDIAN" CO.
WANTED, experienced Character Heavy Man, rehearse next week. Age, height, latest refs., recent photo., lowest terms, William Maclaren, 59, Marlborough-street, Seaham Harbour.

WANTED, immediately, for Repertoire, Comedian (own songs). Capable, strong character; quick and perfect study. Apply, with photo, full particulars. Miss Grace Warner, 22, The Strand, Walmer, Deal.

WANTED, Bass; must be tall and young, have good lower E flat, sonorous speaking voice. Call Monday next, 12 till 2, Rifle Tavern, Kennington Park-road.

TWICE NIGHTLY. STOCK SEASONS.
WANTED, Artistes, all Lines, must be thoroughly experienced. Good study. Sobriety and strict attention to business absolutely essential.
Give at least four weeks' addresses and state where can be seen playing.
Seasons commence shortly after Easter.

Address, with lowest terms, height, age, and enclosing photo and reference, M. Montgomery, Rotunda, Liverpool.

WANTED, immediately, Vocalist; strong dramatic soprano; must be extra good, smart appearance, height about 5ft. 5in.. Apply, by letter only, enclosing photos, &c., to Karl F. Hooper. 132, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

"A FATAL CROWN."
WANTED, to Rehearse, and open immediately, Gents. for Robust Juvenile Lead and Heavy Lead; also Lady for Queen Mary, Heavy Lead. If suitable, arrangements can be made to transfer to stock for summer season. Address, with refs., stating age, height, absolute lowest terms, &c., James Bell, Theatre Royal, Darlington.

FARMER SKEIN and MISS ESTELLE STEAD'S SPRING TOUR.
WANTED, for Shakespearean Répertoire, experienced Artistes, including Stage-Manager. Full pars., photos, with stamped addressed envelope. Miss Estelle Stead, 5, Smith-sq., Westminster. Interviews by appointment only.

WANTED, Ladies and Gentlemen, all lines, for Short Sketch, one week Easter, Palace, Worcester; tour might be arranged to follow. Lowest terms, age, photo, names and addresses last two references to Arthur Carlton, Ravenscourt, Worcester. Mark envelopes "Sketch."

WANTED, Known, Vacancies in First-class Shakespearean Répertoire Company for two young Ladies and two young Gentlemen, to walk on, understudy, and play small parts. Address, with references, Miss Estelle Stead, 5, Smith-square, Westminster. No interviews except by appointment.

WANTED, Small Part Ladies, for Musical Production (W.-End), to represent Juno, Venus, Diana, &c. Replies, containing fullest particulars (encl. addr. env., otherwise ignored), to Author, c/o Tayler's, 30, Fleet-street, E.C.

WANTED, very attractive young girls for a new Musical Sketch; must understand good Classical Dancing and Mimic. Apply, by letter only, to the Menage, 335, Euston-road, N.W.

WANTED, Known, Exceptional Opportunity for Little Girl or Boy to be Trained for the Stage. Dancing and acting. No premium. Must live easy distance. Write, E. Z., 277, Brixton-road, S.W.

WANTED, Dramatic Artistes who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Lady Dramatist Wants Small Part; sketch or otherwise; moderate salary (recommended). Box 4,333, "The Era."

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, First-class Producer for Music Hall Sketches; must be reliable and thoroughly experienced. Apply, Fred. Karno, 28, Vaughan-road, Camberwell, S.E.

DEWSBURY AMATEUR OPERATIC SOCIETY.
WANTED, a Coach, to produce "Dorothy" in November. Send terms and references to J. A. Greenwood, 19, South-st., Savile Town, Dewsbury.

WANTED, at once, first-class Agent in Advance for a Road Circus; understand his business; sober habits, and a gentleman in manner; must understand the English roads. Applications, Box 4,370, "The Era."

MISCELLANEOUS.

FARMER SKEIN and MISS ESTELLE STEAD'S SPRING TOUR.
WANTED, experienced, gentlemanly young Acting-Manager; one able to shorthand and type preferred. Address, Miss Estelle Stead, 5, Smith-square, Westminster. No interviews except by appointment.

WANTED, Smart, Tall Young Gent., for Acting-Management and Small Part; tour. Letters only, first instance, Fred Maxwell, 228, Camberwell New-road, S.E.

WANTED, experienced and competent Advance Agent to book up and arrange Fit-up Tour in Scotland; tour to begin about August.—Box 4,386, "The Era."

WANTED, Electrician, able to do wiring, &c. Lowest terms, Arthur Carlton, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, Box Office Keeper, Theatre Royal, Worcester. For particulars, lowest terms, Arthur Carlton, Ravenscourt, Worcester.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE, MIDDLESBROUGH.
WANTED, a First-class Master Carpenter; to open Monday, March 3; one used to touching up scenery preferred; two last references required. Apply, Chas. Imeson, as above.

WANTED, Bench Hand for big music hall sketch travelling. State age and particulars, Brothers Luck, Empire, Leeds.

WANTED, Smart Billposter; assist. on stage; must be single, reliable. State age, experience, and wages required, Manager, Hippodrome, Rotherham.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, HULL.
WANTED, Props., to combine Billing; must be experienced in both departments. Write age, references, salary required, when at liberty. Wm. Morton.

WANTED, Re-engagement, by practical Variety Stage Manager; a man who understands his business; now working West-End Theatre. Box 4,260, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, Advance Agent; fit-up or theatre; ex. refs.; honest and reliable; concluding ten weeks' Panto. Tour. Please refer present manager, Mr. Carl Fredericks. Disengaged March 3. Open any distance. Mod. sal. Add., Barcham, 7, Raven-st., Ludlow.

WANTED, Engagement, Stage-Manager, Producer, first-class Hall; 20 years' experience; home or Colonies. W. Wallace, 3, Ormond-avenue, Richmond, Surrey.

WANTED, Known, Advance Manager, open for Re-engagement; late with Mr. Richard Flanagan's "Winter's Tale" production. Wire or write, Harold Stanley, Ernest Simmons, Ltd., 14, St. Ann's-square, Manchester.

WANTED, Engagement, by Advance Agent (first class), Stage Management, or useful capacity; experienced; highest London references. George Leybourne, 30, Drayton-park, Highbury.

WANTED, Known, Stage Electrician, qualified, 12 months in charge London Hall; own tools; disengaged shortly; first-class offers invited. G., 76c, Hackford-road, Brixton.

WANTED, Engagement, as Props. and General Assistant; able to take charge; excellent refs.; resident preferred. Props., 20, Galena-road, Hammersmith, W.

WANTED, Engagement, as Programme Seller, Cloak-Room or Dresser, or other evening engagement; widow; 30; smart; references. A., 83, Portobello-road, N. Kensington.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SWINDON.
WANTED, Reliable Conductor, Violin; take lead when required; open immediately; wire age, last position; lowest salary; permanency; also First Violin; open immediately. Wire age, last position, lowest salary, Alfred Manners, as above.

WANTED, Pianist-Conductor, with good library; able to double on Violin, Clarinet, or Drums; for six months; must be well up in Theatre and Variety business. Apply, stating terms, with testimonials, &c., to Manager, Kursaal Theatre, Bognor.

WANTED, for Leading Picture House in the North, first-class Violinist (Conductor), commence Easter Monday, twice nightly, two matinées; library of high-class music essential; also 'Cello, Bass, and Pianist. Age, terms, refs., H. Bull, Hippo., Darlington.

WANTED, Good Leader and 'Cello, for High-class Varieties (provinces). Other instruments write in. Shackleton, Hippodrome, Brighton.

WANTED, First Violin, to commence Feb. 24. Apply, with refs., Sykes, M. D., Palace, Blackburn.

WANTED, Violinists, 'Cellists, Pianists, and Double Bass Players, for Royal Mail Liners. Apply to Enos Greene, 205, Fordwych-road, Cricklewood, N.W.

WANTED, for Easter, ten days from Good Friday, for first-class concert, eng.; first Violin, 'Cello, Bass, Flute, Clarinet, Oboe, Cornet, Trombone, and Drums. Only good musicians need apply. Write to Box 4,389, "The Era."

WANTED, First Violin, 'Cello, Cornet; exhibition; 5 months tour; open April 22. Lowest terms, age, refs., Musical-Director, 2, Elm-place, Bath.

WANTED, for Seaside, from May to October, good Violinist, Viola, Trombone, Solo Clarinet, Solo Cornet, Drummer, Piano; state age and terms. Box 4,375, "The Era."

WANTED, Violinist, for London Concert Trio. Write, stating repertoire, of only finished and polished pieces, with lowest charge for rehearsals. Trio, Box No. 4,383, "The Era."

NEW PALACE, YEOVIL.
WANTED, First Violin; must be thoroughly experienced in variety and pictures. References, absolute lowest terms, open at once, Apply to Jack Kerr, as above.

WANTED, Solo Violinists, Pianists, 'Cellists, and Contra Bassists for Mediterranean Liners. Applicants state age, experience, and give names and addresses of two persons in good positions for references of personal character. Apply, Messrs. C. W. and F. N. Black, Music Directors, 14, Castle-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Good Friday and following fortnight, good Solo Cornet, Oboe, Drummer, and First Violin, for the Municipal and Opera House Orchestra, Cheltenham. Terms, &c. (twice a day, no Sundays), to Horace Teague, Musical-Director.

WANTED, for the Hippodrome, Exeter, a First-class Cornet Player. Must be sober and reliable. Permanency. Good wages to suitable man. Apply to Manager with references.

WANTED, 1st Cornet, also 1st Violin, for continuous Picture and Variety Theatre. Open all the year round. Wages 45s. PICKARD, Trongate, Glasgow.

WANTED, Ex-Soldier Musicians, for Depôt Band, near London. Instruments:—Cornet, French Horn, B flat and E flat Clarinets. Must be competent performers, single, and under 30. Apply by letter to C. Mahillon and Co., 182, Wardour-street, London, W.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

DISTRICT ASYLUM, MELTON, SUFFOLK.
WANTED, an Attendant; must be a good Violin Player, able to read music at sight, and used to string orchestra; wages to commence at £32 a year, with board, lodging, washing, and uniform; at the end of one year £2 increase, afterwards rising by annual increments of £1 up to £42; further increase according to ability as an attendant; an annual addition of £3 is given after five years' service, and a further £2 after ten years' service.
The appointment will be made subject to the provisions of the Asylums Officers' Superannuation Act, 1909.
No deductions from wages under the National Insurance Act.
Applications to be sent to the Medical Superintendent, enclosing copy of one testimonial.

DISTRICT ASYLUM, MELTON, SUFFOLK.
WANTED, an Attendant, must be a good Clarinet Player, able to read music at sight and used to string orchestra. Wages to commence at £32 a year, with board, lodging, washing, and uniform; at the end of one year, £2 increase; afterwards rising by annual increments of £1 up to £42; further increase according to ability as an attendant. An annual addition of £3 is given after five years' service, and a further £2 after ten years' service.
The appointment will be made subject to the provisions of the Asylums Officers' Superannuation Act, 1909. No deductions from wages under the National Insurance Act.
Applications to be sent to the Medical Superintendent, enclosing copy of one testimonial.

COUNTY ASYLUM, WHITTINGHAM, PRESTON.
WANTED, Musician Attendants, First Violin and Viola. None but competent players need apply. Must be single, and not over 35 years of age. Wages commencing at £33 per annum, rising by annual increments of £3 to £45, and according to promotion to £50 and £65, with board, lodging, washing, and uniform. Apply to the Medical Superintendent.

WANTED, for Permanent Staff, Worcestershire Regiment, B flat and E flat Clarinet Players. Ex-soldiers under 30 years of age could re-enlist to complete for pension. Apply, Sgt.-Dmr. Martin, Norton, Worcester.

WANTED, First-class Clarinet, to open Monday, 24th. Nine performances weekly, including Sunday. Must be sober and reliable. Apply, Manager, Palace, Prudhoe-on-Tyne. Good Cornet may also apply.

WANTED, Bass, Flute, and Drums (Ladies), for long engagement; good salary. Write, Box 4,394, "The Era."

WANTED, Bass Trombone, instrument provided. One capable of doubling Bassoon or Basso. Apply, evening, or write, stating age, height, photo, to Percy Honri, Hippodrome, Balham, S.W.

WANTED, good Bombardon, to combine String Bass preferred; permanency to suitable man. Bandmaster, Town Band, Penzance.

WANTED, 'Cello Player, for Hotel Business. Apply, Cooper, 3, Mersey-road, Blackpool.

WANTED, good 'Cellist, suburban theatre; permanency; commence March 3; non-unionist. Full particulars, experience, age, references, and terms, to Box 4,381, "The Era."

BOURNEMOUTH MUNICIPAL ORCHESTRA.
WANTED, Good Viola Player, commencing March 20; must be experienced. Permanent engagement. No Sunday work. Also for the Municipal Military Band, for 21 weeks, from May 12, for the summer season, First Bassoon. Apply, with terms and references, to Dan Godfrey, Musical Director, Winter Gardens, Bournemouth.

WANTED, a smart young Flute and Piccolo, good executant, for musical act now playing London. Apply to Manager, Box 4,393, "The Era."

WANTED, for West-End Restaurant, Flautist, who plays Harmonium. Also Violinist, who plays Piano. Box 4,388, "The Era."

WANTED, Lady Pianist and 'Cellist, for seaside town; must have good Orchestral experience. Apply, Box 4,376, "The Era."

WANTED, Pianist (Gent.); Pics. and Vars.; 30s., half sals. mats.; open at once. Conductor, Palace, Leek, Staffs.

WANTED, to open Monday, Drums and Tymps., &c.; also First Violin. Must be well versed in first-class variety business. Wire, R. Peel, M.-D., Palace, Preston.

WANTED, Wanted, for Circus, a Double Drummer, to Play to Organ. Apply, P. Collins, Gondola Works, Walsall.

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Musical Director, composer and arranger, desires Change in first-class playhouse, music hall, or picture house, with full orchestra; smart, steady, and reliable; excellent refs.; modern repertoire; only first-class permanent appointment entertained. Offers, Box 4,392, "The Era."

WANTED, Re-engagement, by first-class Musical Director; Composer; any business; highest references. Address, Box 4,374, "The Era."

WANTED, by H. Briscoe Kimberley, Musical-Director (piano); tour or resident; experienced all lines; large library; best offers. 21, Bourne-street, Dudley.

WANTED, Known, Mr. Walter Greco, late Musical-Director with Moss and Stoll, is at Liberty to accept Position in music hall or theatre. 271, Romford-rd., Forest Gate.

WANTED, at Liberty March 10, Surtees Corne, Conductor and Pianist; thoroughly experienced in variety business; also concert and hotel work; extensive library. Address, Theatre Royal, Cardiff.

WANTED, Known, Conductor-Violinist, at Liberty April to October; up-to-date library; highest references. Address, Conductor, 40, Loreburn-road, Wavertree, Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement, by Experienced Reliable Leader (33); excellent testimonials; open Monday. Violinist, 14, Canada-road, Deal.

WANTED, Known, thoroughly experienced and competent Violinist open for Engagement as Violinist-Conductor or Leader; first-class picture theatre preferred; only good offers considered. Violinist, 30, Grainger-road, Isleworth, London.

WANTED, Re-engagement, by First-class Violinist; any business, or deputising; highest refs., &c. Write, Violinist, 29, Northway-road, Coldharbour-lane, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Miss Lizzie Matthews, experienced Violinist, now Disengaged. Permanent address, 230, Croxted-road, Herne Hill, S.E. 'Phone, 2256 Brixton.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement for Summer Season, by first-class Lady Cornet. Box 4,378, "The Era."

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WANTED, Engagement, Cornet, or Deputy, March 1, on. Brown B Flat and A Trumpet, sale, cheap; £2 10s. Cornet, 19, Walcot-sq., Kennington-road, London.

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WANTED, Engagement, by first-class Clarinet, experienced all lines; good refs.; steady and reliable. H. Huggins, Shakespeare, Theare-st., Norwich.

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WANTED, Engagement as 'Cello (24), good, all-round experience, reliable, now disengaged. Address, Humphrey, 78, Aldworth-road, Stratford, E.

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WANTED, Known, Miss Nellie Rennison's Ladies' Orchestra, Liberty Easter; good offers only. Terms and particulars, 23, Franklin-rd., Bournville, Birmingham.

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WANTED, Known, Herr Paul Schafer's String Orchestra will be disengaged shortly; extensive library; uniforms provided if required. Apply, T.R., Windsor.

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WANTED, for Fêtes, Galas, Whitsun, onwards, Specialities of Every Description, Bars, Wire, Acrobats, Equilibrists, Gymnasts, with fittings. Send lithos., memos, vacancies, terms. George Burton, Gala Agent, 93, Albert-street, Crewe.

WANTED, Circus Artistes who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Tenting, by Les Zeimars, Continental Staircase Equilibriste; also Wells and Taylor, Knockabout Table Acrobats; Two distinct acts; two ladies, two gents.; can open Easter. Grand, Pentre; next, Vint's Pal., Ilkeston.

WANTED, [illegible] for [illegible]ng; Cr[illegible] Ret[illegible] For [illegible]

CIRCUS ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Rollo, the World's Slack Rope Artiste, at Liberty Fête and Circuses. Evans's Carnival, Tollcross burgh.

WANTED, Known, Steckel, Continental with own horse; also Four Kels, Gy[illegible] Pot-pourri, vac. Summer Season; also Gus Kaye-street, Bradford.

WANTED, by Four Mexicans, Lasso, Whip Wonders, March 10, 17. Any [illegible] using original lithos of the above act prosecuted. S. D. Sylviaz, Manager, 31, Bri[illegible] terrace, Brixton.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WAN[illegible]

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WANTED, Artistes, Specialities, and Novelt[illegible] for immediate and future dates. T. Rawes, Proprietor.

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WANTED, Big Star Attractions, on salary, to find complete programme on share. Arthur Carlton, New Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, for Monday next, and onwards, St[illegible] Specialities, Comediennes, Sisters, and a[illegible] drawing Top Liners. Four weeks certain. Pic[illegible] ard, Trongate, Glasgow.

WANTED, for Great Variety Competition, £[illegible] Prize, Turns, Foresters, Thursday after[illegible] noon; Bow and Sadler's Wells, Friday night State hall you wish to appear to Competition Manager, Sadler's Wells Theatre, Islington. Send stamp for reply.

WANTED, Variety Artistes coming North t[illegible] send vacant dates and terms, also half dozen blank memos., to Anderson's Agency, 6, G[illegible] Clyde-st., Glasgow.

WANTED, Big Tops, shares or salary, Artist[illegible] all lines, March 3, onwards. Can offer [illegible] weeks, journeys short. Kennedy Circuit, Empire, Smethwick.

PALACE, SUNDERLAND.
WANTED, for March 10, Strong Magnetic Attractions; must be really big Top Liners; preference given to Big Sensational Acts or something of a very novel character; also Acts of every Description for the following dates: March 17, 24, and 31, April 21, May 5, 12, onward. Address, with lowest terms and full particulars, to Manager, Palace, Sunderland.

WANTED, for Fêtes, Galas, Whitsun, onwards, Specialities of Every Description, Bars, Wire, Acrobats, Equilibrists, Gymnasts, with fittings. Send lithos, memos, vacancies, terms. George Burton, Gala Agent, 93, Albert-street, Crewe.

HARRY LEATON'S AGENCY,
575, Argyle-street, Glasgow.
'Phone: 1075 Charing X. Wires: "Cockney, Glasgow."

WANTED, Several Big Tops (Salary or [illegible]ing), and Artistes of every description, for Feb. 24, and onwards. Full list of bookings, lowest terms, lithos, &c., immediately. Represented all over the country. Interviews by appointment only.

FRANK COYLE'S AGENCY.
WANTED, £30, £40, and £50 Star Tops, March 10, 17, 24, 31; also Artistes All Lines, if good, Comedy Acts, Troupes, Specialities, &c.; all kinds of Gala Acts for season. 1, Cross Flatts-drive, Beeston, Leeds. 'Phone, 4195. Telegrams, "Alarm, Beeston, Yorks."

WANTED, Stars, Novelties, Specialities, Artistes, and Acts in all lines for immediate and future dates, large and small, but only the best need apply.
DALY'S AGENCY,
Pink-lane, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
Notice.—From March 10 this Agency will be controlled personally and run in conjunction with a first-class, well-known London Agent (in partnership). Dates then can be given in London, Provinces and the Continent, Australia, South Africa, and U.S.A., but "only the best." No matter how large or small. This Agency is always at home and always on tour. All clients' business properly attended to. Acts new to North try this business house, but not if you are on 20 other agents' books. See future announcements.

A. H. FRANCE'S AGENCY,
1, Zetland-road,
Middlesbrough.
Telephone, 48 P.O. Telegrams, "Films, Middlesbrough."

WANTED, Good, Big, Speciality Acts; immediate vacancies; suitable tops; complete bookings for 1913; lowest price; permanent address. Sample of printing, if any.

WANTED, Variety Artistes, vacant March 10, for Bradford; Comedy Acts, Sister "turns," and good Bottom of Bill (not sketch), to send bookings and lowest terms, and state date of last appearance in Bradford, to Brooks' Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, absolute refined Variety Turns for future dates. Apply, John Darlison, General-Manager, New Lyceum Theatre, Dumfries. See "Companies Wanted" column.

WANTED, Bank Holiday, Aug. 4, 1913, for Kidderminster Weavers' Monster Fête and Picnic, first-class Aerial Performers and other Artistes; best talent only. Lithos, posters, and all particulars as to terms, &c., to be sent without delay to F. W. Landon, 2, Hume-st., Kidderminster.

WANTED, Big Variety Star Turns, For Manchester, Buxton, and North. March 10, onwards. Terms, &c. Edgar Stebbings, 28, Egerton-street, Manchester.

IRELAND.
WANTED, March 3, onwards, Variety Artistes, all lines; must be new to Newry. Singles, Doubles doing Singles, Sister Acts, Sketches, Musical and Novelty Acts. Good break Belfast, Dublin, Cork, &c. Lowest terms to Manager, Mitchel Assembly Hall, Needham-place, Newry.

WANTED, Smart, Pretty Girls, 5ft. 4in.; clever step dancers; long engagement for suitable girls. Apply, with practice dress, any day between 3 and 5, Chandos Hall, 21a, Maiden-lane, Strand, W.C. Mr. and Mrs. Gordon.

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WANTED, Known, all Communications shou[illegible] be addressed to W. T. Simmons, Manag[illegible] Director, Palace Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, Music Hall Art[illegible] diffic[illegible]

USIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS

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WTED, Known, twenty minutes laughter nd applause; five people; staged, dressed, yed on West-End lines; own beautiful and effects. Vacant March 24 (precede rt), May 26 (follow Reading); only Spring es. James Hare, County Theatre, Bangor, or Harry Burns or Ernest Dottridge.

NTED, March 10, March 10.
CARTER LIVESEY,
CARTER LIVESEY,
CARTER LIVESEY,
in
"An Amateur Anarchist."
er, York, Bolton, Burnley, Plymouth, &c. King's, Southsea. Next, Empire, Hackney.

ALFRED WELLESLEY,
in a Delightful Comedietta,
"UNCLE'S COURTSHIP."
ANTED, March 3, 10, and 17, between Chatham and Empire, Sheffield. ed into 1915 by Moss, Stoll, De Frece, Barrasford, Gibbons, Syndicate, &c.
Three Artistes. Runs 18 minutes.
Address, Barnard's Palace, Chatham.

ANTED, Ned Vokes, Refined Comedy, Musical, and Talking Comedian, vacant 24, March 3. Wire, 16, Moreton-st., Strange-s, Manchester.

ANTED, Monday next. Feb. 24, by Harry Kino, Light Comedian. Wire or write, ety, Birmingham. Perm. address, 62, Sycae-road, Aston, Birmingham.

ANTED, Monday next. Bu-Val, the Happy Dutchman (Concertina).
Palace, Tibshelf, Derbyshire.

ANTED, March 10 and April 7, Theo Mauritus, Handcuff King and Jail Breaker. Durham Theatre, South Shields.

ANTED, by Jack Walton, Popular Versatile Comedian, Panto. concluded, March 3, on, th exceptions. Wire or write, Woodlea, Ajaxoad, Hampstead.

ANTED, Monday next, also March 3, 10, and later dates, Khrel and Khrel, in their atest Spectacular Comedy, Musical, Vocal, Dance, nd Patter Star Act. The Dame and Dainty Damsel. Enormous success, Panto., T.R., Cardiff. Add., 56, Gloucester-cres., Regent's Park, London.

ANTED, Feb. 24 (wire, Hippodrome, Ipswich), Rohde and Roche; Comedy Pot-Pourri ct, "The Chameleon, The Artist, and IT." ways a success.

ANTED, Feb. 24. March 3, by The Tissots. Originators of Living Marionettes and Famous Cat Duet. Wire, Picturedrome, Wellington, Salop.

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MISCELLANEOUS.

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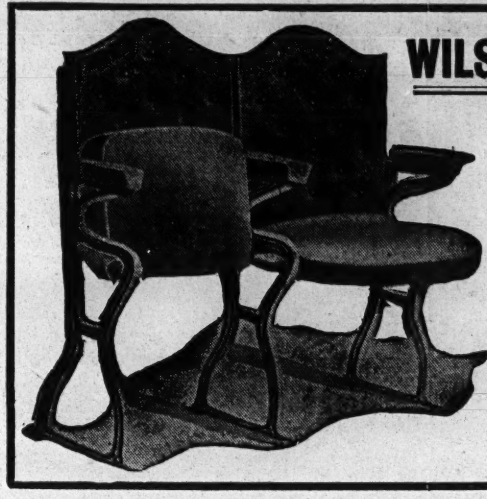

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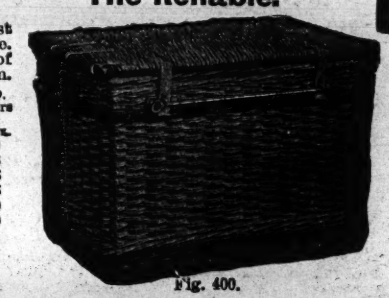

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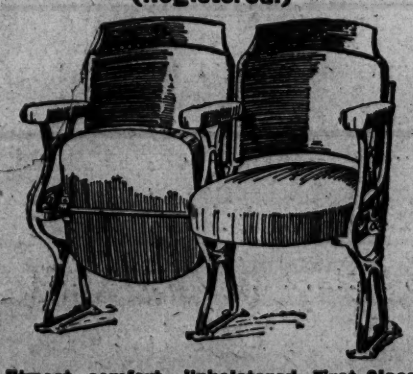

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EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Roland Bros., Miss Artie Hall, Kathi Gultini, Owen Moran, Will Hay, "Heart of a Child," Bert Terrell, Rich Taylor, Bioscope.

Notice to Artistes.

The management invite artistes engaged in Birmingham to take advantage of the handsome and high-class lounge which has recently opened adjoining the Empire Theatre, and under the same management. All facilities are provided for correspondence, &c.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Lily Burnand, Five X-Rays, Russell Brandow, Albert Chevalier, Andrew McManus, Park's Eton Boys, Fred Keeton, Happy Jack Gardiner, Bioscope.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—

Eustace Gray's "Palladium Minstrels."

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

The Paulastos, Irene Meldon, Great Weiland, Harry Fields, Six Bros. Luck, Barton & Ashley, Edie King, Gwennie Llewellyn, Bros. Curran.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Doris Duquesne, Tom Costello, Paulhan Team, Whit Cunliffe, Six Ceylons, Bioscope, The Keppels, The Harlequinaders, Vittorio & Georgetto, Howard & Harris.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Chass Lewis, Lily Lena, Sammy Shields, Tom E. Dean, Lily Langtry, Robb, Ivy & Lynn, "Arms and the Girl," Bioscope, Williams & Warden.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Miller Bros., Jack Thomas, Nan C. Hearne, Ike & Will Scott, Tucker, "The Concealed Bed," Princess D'Aryaba, Mona Warwick, Bioscope, Jack Roscoe.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

Resident-Director: Mr. Richard Thornton.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Thorpe & Coe, Albert Rees, Harry Bedford, Percy Honri & Co. in "Bohemia," Hunter & Bob, Stein-Esthor Troupe, W. F. Frame, Hands & Lorenzi, Bioscope.

EMPIRE THEATRE, EDINBURGH.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Luis Alvarez, Bioscope, Miss Francis Letty, Wild Willie & West, Marie Lloyd, Austin Temple, Donal McDougal, Melody Makers, Ethel Loftus, Wilfred Burnand.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Frank Powell, Phil Percival, Millie Payne, Russell & Held, "Everybody," The Cowboy Jupiters, Alberta D. Flaney & Tenor, Mallia & Bart, Bioscope, Maggie Carr.

The following are booked in conjunction with the above:

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND.

Managing-Director: Mr. Richard Thornton.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

George Rae, The Rawsons, Thora, Cooper & Lait, J. H. Scotland, George Mozart, Adam Tomlinson, The Carbry Boys, The Oran Trio.

Artistes are requested to send all Bill Matter for this Hall Direct to Empire Theatre, Sunderland.

EMPIRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.

Managing-Director: Mr. Richard Thornton.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

"The Glad Eye."

Artistes are requested to send all Bill Matter for this Hall Direct to Empire Theatre, Sunderland.

EMPIRE PALACE, S. SHIELDS.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

The Craggs, Dusty Rhodes, Fred Lincoln, Les Yost, Videos, Two St. Johns, Gerald Wyatt, Taylor's Monkeys and Dogs.

Artistes are requested to send all Bill Matter for this Hall Direct to Empire Theatre, Sunderland.

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.

Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—

Victor Kelly, Pictures, Two Lillies, Artusa, Sunny Sarah Hicks, Jack Audley, Will & Nell, Four Kemptons, David Marriott.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Les Trippellos, Pictures, Maurice & Maurice, Sisters Beaumont, Field & Mansell, Murray & May.

HER MAJESTY'S, WALSALL.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Stock Company.

IMPERIAL HALL, WALSALL.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Picture Entertainment, Illustrated Songs, &c.

GRAND PICTURE HOUSE, WALSALL.

Picture Entertainment.

GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

"10.30 Down Express."

These Calls are communicated by the Management for the information of Artistes WITHOUT PREJUDICE.

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ARTISTES AND AGENTS.—When an artiste or act, having previously played on the Moss' Empire Tour, is re-engaged for further dates, the Contracts will be sent to the agent who negotiated the last engagement—unless notice has been received from the artiste that this is not desired. It is therefore important that should artistes change their agents, notification in writing be immediately sent to Moss' Empires, Ltd., stating through whom they desire their business transacted.

PLEASE NOTE.—NO DEPUTIES WILL BE ACCEPTED AT REHEARSALS. ANY ARTISTES ABSENTING THEMSELVES WILL BE LIABLE TO HAVE THEIR CONTRACTS CANCELLED.

SPECIAL PROVISION HAS BEEN MADE AT EACH THEATRE FOR THE EXHIBITION OF LOOSE PHOTOGRAPHS. ARTISTES ARE REQUESTED TO SUPPLY THESE TO THE MANAGER ON REACHING THE THEATRE, AND THEY WILL BE RETURNED IN GOOD CONDITION AT THE END OF THE WEEK

RE APPLICATIONS FOR ENGAGEMENTS.—All applications by either Artistes or their Agents must be made to the Head Office. Lowest terms must be stated, and distinction made between salaries required for larger and smaller towns. Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier. **SILENCE, A POLITE NEGATIVE.** To avoid confusion Artistes employing Agents should accredit one only at one time to do their business.

BOOKING DEPARTMENT.—This department is now under the supervision of Mr. Ernest Wighton.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SOUTH SHIELDS.—Artistes and Agents wishing to submit TRIALS for their Acts in the North should apply to the Manager, as Matinees are held every Wednesday for that purpose.

N.B.—MR. FRANK ALLEN or MR. ERNEST WIGHTON can be seen by appointment on all matters arising out of the above, and for the discussion of entirely new Numbers.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTES.—Artistes must have at least Fourteen Band Parts for English Orchestrations, and Seventeen Band Parts for Foreign Orchestrations. Matter of Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to Head Offices, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, failing which Artistes will run the risk of having their engagements cancelled. IMPORTANT.—Artistes must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to Opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artistes are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced. Artistes' Scenery, Properties, &c., MUST be fireproofed in accordance with the regulations of the Licensing Authorities. ARTISTES WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

IMPORTANT.—All sketches produced at the above theatres must be licensed by the Lord Chamberlain. A complete copy of the script of every sketch as licensed, with a copy of the Lord Chamberlain's licence, must be sent to the Head Office twenty-one days at least before the performance of the sketch at any of the above Theatres.

No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the foregoing theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form, issued from the London Offices, and signed by either Mr. Frank Allen or the Chief Accountant, otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases, where goods are required at once, suppliers must look to the individual placing the order, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within forty-eight hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the London Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss of or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

THE

LONDON SYNDICATE HALLS.

Providing Continuous Engagements for Artistes at the most Important Variety Theatres in the London Area.

General Administrative Offices:

1, DURHAM HOUSE ST., STRAND, W.C.

Telephone Nos., Gerrard 5654 and 2619.

Calls for Monday, Feb. 24, 1913.

LONDON PAVILION.
Rehearsal at 12.
E. Edelsten's Co. in "Marked Money," Leslie Stiles and Co. in "On the Pier." Mike S. Whallen, Sam Stern, Louie Tracey, Ben Albert, Beth Tate, Walter George & Co., Signor Torti, Millie Doris, Frank Maura, Camp and Critic, Frank and Vesta, Mlle. La Freya.

TIVOLI.
Rehearsal at 12.
Bransby Williams, Bertram Wallis's "Musketeers," including Bertram Wallis, Herbert Clayton, Frederic Norton and Nelson Keys, R. McDonald's Co. in "The Lodgers," Elsie Faye & Co., Little Pam, Maidie Scott, Ross and Lewis, Hedges Bros. and Jacobsen, Morny Cash, Evelyn Tyser, Harold Montague, Jeanett Duprez, Radford and Valentine, Clifford Morgan.

OXFORD.
Rehearsal at 12.
Ernest Roll's Co. in "Ragmania," May Henderson, Capt. Graham's Baboons, W. H. Huming, Jessie Berg, Keeley Bros., Gilbert Girard, Veronica Brady, The Three Prestons, George Ross, Syd Walker, Giovanni Colombo, Achmid Ibrahim Troupe, Duncan and Godfrey, The Four Kasracs, Devon and Earle, King and Benson.

METROPOLITAN.
Rehearsal at 12.45.
Joe Peterman's Co., Maidie Scott, Jessie Millward & Co., Guest and Newlyn, Harry Marlowe, Kitty Colyer. Lolita, Arthur Leslie, MacFayden Bioscope.

SOUTH LONDON.
Rehearsal at 12.
James Willard & Co., Seven Perezoffs, New Macs, Arthur Lennard, Harry Wenburn, Doris Hunter, Four Royal Scots, Sinclair and Whiteford, Vera Moore, Bioscope.

These Calls are communicated by the Man...

CHELSEA.
Rehearsal at 12.
Bertram Wallis's Musketeers, including Bertram Wallis, Herbert Clayton, Frederic Norton and Nelson Keys, Joe Peterman & Co., Dorothy Varrick, Three Jovers, Arthur Lennard, Royston Dene & Co., Barbara Babbington, Frank Silvo, Arthur Stacey, Bioscope.

EUSTON.
Rehearsal at 12.
George Gray & Co., Alec Kennedy, Four Royal Scots, George Ross, Harold Montague, Doris Hunter, Bert Earle, The Masques, Veronica Brady, Bioscope.

EAST HAM.
Rehearsal at 12.
Bransby Williams, Beau Brocade, Flora Cromer, Fred Douglas, Strolling Players, Will Norrie, Dare Austin & Co., Hillier and Dorothy, Herbert Ru... Bioscope.

WALTHAMSTOW.
Rehearsal at 1.
E. D. Nicholls & Co., Carrie Laurie's Juveniles, King and Benson, F. V. St. Clair, Irene Miller, U no and Nana, Ted Gill, Lily Long, Llevin and Pantzer, Ed. E. Ford, Bioscope.

TOTTENHAM.
Rehearsal at 2.
"The Lady in Red." E. D. Nicholls & Co., Sados and Assistant, Elsie Kerry, Sisters Caselli, Albert Letine, Five Cliftons, Irene Miller, Bioscope.

EMPRESS, BRIXTON.
Rehearsal at 12.
Upman, Seven Bramusas, Winnie Wayne, Bowman and Morton, Dorothy Varrick, Sid Cotterill & Co., Giovanni Colombo, Gertrude Bibby, Fred Hastings, Elsie Faye & Co., The New Macs, Bioscope.

WATFORD.
Rehearsal at 1.
Hedges Bros. and Jacobsen, Fred Edwards & Co., Frank Melvin, Dolly Lee, Harry Marlow, Rose Hamilton & Co., Barney Murphy, Bioscope.

... for the information of Artistes "without prejudice."

IF YOU CONTEMPLATE AN AMERICAN TOUR, SEND THE NEWS AHEAD THROUGH THE MEDIUM OF AN ADVERTISEMENT IN

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MUM'S THE WORD

IS A SUCCESS, THANKS.

FRED CAMPLIN
Sketch Star in
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A charming and refined English Ragtime Act.
Music by A. W. KETELBEY.
AN ABSOLUTELY ORIGINAL IDEA BEAUTIFULLY CARRIED OUT.
Produced Monday last. Opens, Collins', Monday Next.

FAKING THE FILM

Music by A. W. KETELBEY.
Including:
REDDY RIGBY and LOUIS DU CANE.
...riginal sketch of modern times. ONE SCREAM.
F... EBRUARY 24—KING'S, DUNDEE.
st... NT—March 17 (Midlands).
F...
CA... HEL WARD,
ET... OCAP MAJESTY
A... etch touring, and what a draw!
... W. KETELBEY.
...ful sk... onwards, with exceptions.
... by A. ... HOUSE, DUDLEY.
...r 6
...PERA... of above—
...ARRIS,
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MA... N.
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...DDINGT...

LAWRENCE BROUGH

and his Famous Company of Comedians, and

MISS OLGA ESME,

in the immense laughing successes

CONFUSION **CONFUSION,** (Seven Artistes.) ON THE BEACH

Vacant—
FEBRUARY 24.

ON THE BEACH, (Seven Artistes.)

Vacant—
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SIR FRANCIS BURNAND'S Three Act Laughing Success,

THE LADY OF OSTEND, (Twelve Artistes.)

Available once or twice nightly.
(Vaudeville or Theatre.)

Vacant—
FEBRUARY 24.
Plays 1¾ to 2¼ hours.

This Week,
KING'S PALACE, PRESTON,
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CHARLES W. & JOHN R. POOLE'S
PRODUCTION.

THE LOSS OF THE

TITANIC

(The Immortal Tale of Simple Heroism.)

Feb. 24, PALACE, WARRINGTON.
Sole Agent, HARRY BURNS.

LITTLE BETTY RENÉE,

THE WORLD'S GREATEST CHILD DANSEUSE.
IN TOWN.

[*Photo by Jas. Bacon & Sons.*

Vide Press, "Birmingham Weekly Post," Feb. 8, 1913:—
"Little Betty Renée charmed the audience with her wonderful dancing. She reproduced with remarkable ability two of Madame Pavlova's acts, the Pas-Seul and the Passing of the Swan. This little girl, who is only twelve years of age, will doubtless take a prominent place in the dancing world of the future."

Do not fail to see this Wonder Child.
ALL COMS. C/o "THE ERA."

M. H. A. R. A.

and
VARIETY ARTISTES' BENEVOLENT FUND,
18, CHARING CROSS-ROAD, W.C.

NOTICE.

The Secretary desires the addresses of the following members: Costello and Freeman, The Mowatts, Wellman, Lydia Neilson, Montes and Welma, Ryan and Hall, Retford and Walsh, J. W. Knowles, Madge Northcote, and Jack and Ted Lenford. Will any member know the addresses of the above kindly communicate with the Secretary?

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President, MR. WALTER DE FRECE.

Chairman and Treasurer,
MR. HARRY BARNARD.

The Committee meet at 69, Kennington-road, the first and third Friday in every month at 2.30 to consider applications for admittance to the Home.

J. SPARROW, Secretary.

To Hotel Proprietors who regularly file "The Era."

METAL TABLETS

of
"THE ERA"
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Chairman & Managing Director, OSWALD STOLL.
Secretary and Chief Accountant, W. S. GORDON MICHIE.
ARTISTES' DEPARTMENT: Negotiations—A. D. DAVIS; Dates—LLEWELLYN JOHNS.
Address all communications to the Managing Director.

CALLS FOR FEBRUARY 24, 1913.

THE LONDON COLISEUM.
Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—
Violet Vanbrugh as Lady Macbeth, M. Theodore Kosloff in "Scheherazade," Irene Vanbrugh & Co. in "Rosalind," Max and Moritz II., Four Amaranths, Werds Bros., Carmen Turia, Coram, Kinemacolor.
Please note the Continental Pitch has been adopted by the Coliseum Orchestra.

THE NEW MIDDLESEX.
Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for:—
"The Grip of Iron," Vera Wootton, Bioscope, Briff, Braff, and Broff, Selection, Olga, Elgar, and Elf Hudson.

THE HACKNEY EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
C. Aubrey Smith and Lilian Braithwaite in "Instinct," Fred Earle, Bioscope, Doroswami, Carter Livesey & Co., Daisy Taylor, The Four Elles.
Artistes should send photos for display in front of the house to Manager, to be returned at end of week.

SHEPHERD'S BUSH EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—
Fred Karno's Co. in "The Hydro," Master Frank Wilson, Jack Shires, Bioscope, Two McKays, Ludwig Amann, Edna Lyall, Hinton & Wootton, Harry Champion, Hayman & Franklyn.

THE CHISWICK EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—
George Barrett & Co. in "Two Flats," The Grotesques, Campbell and Barber, Bioscope, Jennie Johns, J. W. Rickaby, Walter Aubrey, Mabel Sinclair, Carlisle and Wellmon, Fregolia.

WOOD GREEN EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—
Vesta Tilley, Smite and Smote, Marcus and Gartelle, Lorna and Toots Pounds, Hal Bert, Chris Van Bern, Iva Voyce, Molly Wells, Bioscope.

CHATHAM EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
La Pia, "A Riding Academy," Griff, Cissie Curlette, Stella Stahl, Harry Gribben & Co. in "Come Aboard, Sir," Bioscope, Jack Lorimer.
Artistes should send photos for display in front of the house to Manager, to be returned at end of week.

MANCHESTER HIPPODROME.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Anna Kva Fay, The Three Collegians, Lydia and Amelys, Wille Bros., "Fox Hunt," Bioscope, Margaret Moffatt & Co., Minnie Love.

THE ARDWICK EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—
Neil Kenyon, J. A. Wilson, Dion Wade, Sharp's Tromboneers, Dean Tribune, Kara, Bioscope, Fred Rome and Lady.

THE LEICESTER PALACE.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
"Mexico," Minnie Mace, Harry Moore, The Crisps, Bioscope, Tom Woottwell, Rene Ralph, Albert Whelan.

LEICESTER FLORAL HALL.
Pictures.

BRISTOL HIPPODROME.
Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for:—
"The Redskin," Gintaro, Jean Robb, Bert Errol, Stylo Duo, Cooper Mitchell, George Leyton, Bioscope, Ferry Corwey.

NOTE.—All Sketches played at the above theatres must be licensed by the Lord Chamberlain, and a copy of the licence, together with script as licensed, must be sent to the Stoll Offices at least 21 days before date of performance.

Arrangements for additional Theatres include—

FULHAM EMPIRE.

The distance as the crow flies between the Finsbury Park Empire and the Wood Green Em... measured on the Ordnance Survey Map, is 2 miles 60 yards.—Edward Stanford.
BAND PARTS REQUIRED.—14 different parts for English Orchestrations and ... Foreign Orchestrations. Bristol Hippodrome requires 20 parts, including 3 first violins and part for harp.
ADVERTISING MATTER.—Bills, Blocks, Photographs, and specimens of P... really representing the Act, should be forwarded three weeks before opening. If return ... graphs required, please say so.
STAGE DEPARTMENT.—Songs proposed to be sung should be submitted, ... stage requirements stated, in letters marked "Stage Department," by Artistes three w... opening.
COARSENESS, VULGARITY, &c., is not allowed. The Licensing Auth... this and the majority of the public resent it. This intimation is only rendered necess... few Artistes.
ARTISTES' SCENERY AND PROPERTIES must be fireproofed or ... brought into the Theatre. This is by order of the Licensing Authorities.
BUSINESS NOTICE OF GENERAL APPLICATION.—No order or ... or services must be accepted for any of the above Theatres except upon receipt of ... issued from the Offices, London, and signed by either Mr. Oswald Stoll or the S... the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse paymen... where goods are required at once suppliers must look to the individual placing ... be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, i... hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the ... Head Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

W. H. BROADHEAD & SON'S

Theatres and Hippodromes.

All Communications, Bill Matter, Lithos, Plots, &c., to Percy B. Broadhead, Hippodrome, Manchester.

Telegraphic Address: "Broadheads, Manchester,"
National Telephone: 7359 & 7360 Manchester.

Artistes wishing to negotiate engagements, Agents and Managers of Touring Companies can be seen between the Hours of 10 and 1 (Mondays and Saturdays excepted).

CALLS FOR MONDAY, FEB. 24, 1913.

ASHTON—Empire Hippodrome.—J. A. Campbell's Co., "The Queen Mother." **2.**

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE—Empress Roller Rink. — Skating, Two Sessions Daily.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE — Pavilion Theatre. — Animated Pictures, &c. **11.** Matinées, Monday, Tuesday, and Saturday, **2.30.**

BURY — Hippodrome. — Glenroy Troupe, Pictures, Three Merry Wags, Bon Air Trio, Boultbee, Diana Hope and Monte Bayley, &c. **2.**

ECCLES—Crown Theatre.—Ninette, Pictures. **2.**

LIVERPOOL—Pavilion Theatre.—Marie Loftus, Ethel Stephenson, Ketos, J. W. Hall, Tom Jersey, Zella Vondi & Co., Motley Four, Walter Bird's Co. **2.**

MANCHESTER — Hippodrome.—John Tiller's Pantomime, "Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves." **2.** Matinée, Saturday, **2.30.**

MANCHESTER—Junction Theatre. S. R. Squires' Co., "Leah Kleschna." **2.**

MANCHESTER—King's Theatre.—Travis Green's Co., "Queen of the Redskins." **2.**

MANCHESTER—Metropole Theatre.—J. Newton Cowling's Co., "The Collier's Lass." **11.** Matinée, Monday, **2.30.**

MANCHESTER.—Osborne Theatre.—Green and Winsford's Co. in "The Pride of the Prairie." **2.**

MANCHESTER — Queen's Park Hippodrome.—The Raynor Repertoire Co. **2.**

MORECAMBE—Winter Gardens.—Pictures, Dancing, &c. **11.**

PRESTON — Hippodrome. — Harry Foxwell's Co., "The Gambler." **11.** Matinée, Monday, **2.30.**

PRESTON — Palace Theatre. — American Ragtime Octette, Ruby Maybutt, Harrigan and Holt, Kate and Tom Major, Bob and Jennie Leonards, Fimans, Yamamoto and Koyoshi Troupe. **1.**

SALFORD — Hippodrome. — John Tiller's Pantomime, "Cinderella." **2.** Matinées, Tuesday and Saturday, **2.30.**

MISS MARIE LLOYD.
Touring.
Feb. 24, EMPIRE, EDINBURGH.
Sole Representative, Walter Bentley.
New Songs and Dresses
on her return to town.

MISS VESTA VICTORIA.
Queen of Domestic Comedy.
IN TOWN.
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In Town.
Business-Manager, G. Barclay.

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"Emmie's Xmas tree," still going strong.
Terrific success last week, Hippo., Darlington.
ON TOUR.
Perm. address, Hippo., Wisbech, Cam.

Booked Moss' Empires, Tivoli, Oxford, Pavilion, Syndicate, Gibbons, &c.
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The World's Greatest Chorus Singer.
PANTOMIME.
Feb. 24, PRINCES T., BRADFORD.

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ORMA MORGAN.
Refined Versatile Comedienne.
..., The Crumbles, St. Anthony's-avenue, Eastbourne.
...ime 1913-14, title-rôle, Messrs. Milton Bode ...d J. F. Graham's "Jack Horner."

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...a few Vacancies this year.
...t week, London Halls.
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... include: Moss, Stoll, and ...ndicate, and L.T.V. Halls, ...nt halls. All booked by ... Empire, New Cross.
Feb. 24, EMPIRE, STRATFORD.

MISS BERTIE ADAMS,
As JUNE in "Autumn Manœuvres."
NEW THEATRE, MANCHESTER.
Coms., Blackmore's Agency.

MISS IRENE DILLON.
The Big-Little Girl.
Presenting an Entirely New Novelty Act, upon her re-appearance in vaudeville.
Coms., George Barclay.

MISS DOLLY HARMER.
Vacant March 3,
Vaudeville or Musical Comedy.
Empire, Edmonton, London.

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Feb. 24,
HIPPO., ROCHDALE.
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Will Collins, Business Manager.

FREGOLIA.
The Woman who is Never Herself.
Feb. 24, EMPIRE, CHISWICK.

Simply
MARJORIE DEAN,
Colonial Lady Ventriloquist,
in her Original Scena,
"THE GIPSY SHOWGIRL."
Also another Drawing-room Scena, entitled "AUNTIE'S VISIT."
My own property and legally protected.
Enormous success at Empire, Hammersmith, Hippo., Putney, Empire, Islington, Palace, Camberwell, Hippo., Poplar.
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MISS FLORENCE SMITHERS.
Enormous Success, Top of Bill, at Hippo., Eastbourne. "Our Mary Jane."
Leaving for S. Africa March 1.
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Comedians and Animal Impersonators.
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The Cockney Huntsmen.
Vacant March 3 and 10.
Coms., Tom Claxton.

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(MAGGIE and JACK),
Entertainers.
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MISS HARRIETT VERNON.
New Song Scena, "The Half-way House."
Communications, Mr. Tom Claxton,
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MISS VESTA TILLEY.
ON TOUR.
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LELIA ROZE.
Permanent address,
Avonmouth House, Mudeford, Hants.
Business coms., above address.

An Artiste to her finger tips.
MISS DAISY DORMER.
Address,
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"My Irish Maggie."
"A Dutch Lullaby."
All Written and Composed by Mamie Fenton.
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MARIE LOFTUS.
Concludes to-night King's Palace, Preston.
Monday, Pavilion, Liverpool.
"Glasgow Herald," Feb. 11, says:—
THE PAVILION.
The return of Miss Marie Loftus as the star attraction to the Pavilion was hailed with delight by crowded audiences at both performances last night. The enthusiastic reception accorded the comedienne of whom Glasgow is rightly so proud was thoroughly merited, as she was heard to the greatest advantage. In her performance she employed the distinct charm, marked skill, and inimitable qualities that have placed her on such a high plane as an entertainer, a position which her undoubted merit has enabled her to occupy for such a considerable time past. Remarkably bright and vivacious, Miss Loftus's numbers were a rare treat, remarkably good being her characterisation of singers, past and present.

"Daily Record," Feb. 11.
MARIE LOFTUS.
Perhaps there is no greater vaudeville favourite in Glasgow than Miss Marie Loftus, our ain Scotch lassie, and her appearance at the Pavilion next week, after a very lengthy absence, will be hailed with delight by her many local admirers. She returns to the scene of former triumphs with a budget of new songs. It may not be idle talk to say that what Sarah Bernhardt is to the legitimate stage, Marie Loftus is to vaudeville.

"Daily Herald."
THE PAVILION.
It is natural that an audience should expect something above the ordinary from an artist of such fame as Marie Loftus. Those who went to hear her last night were far from being disappointed. She makes the very most of everything she undertakes, or, to adapt Dr. Johnson's statement regarding Goldsmith, she never utters anything that she does not embellish with her personality. Her characterisation of singers, past and present, is particularly and deservedly popular.

THE BERNHARDT-LIKE LOFTUS AT THE PAVILION.
The prime attraction at the Pavilion this week is Marie Loftus, and last night she was warmly welcomed by a crowded house. Artistes past and present were portrayed with remarkable minuteness of gesture and mannerisms, and the lady had to accomplish three visits to the stage ere she was allowed finally to retire.

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Booked with Moss' Empires, Argyle, Birkenhead, &c. Thanks to Mr. Rufe Naylor for offer for South Africa. Vacant Feb. 24, March, and a few immediate dates. Wire, 133, Clapham-rd., London; or Agents, G. Barclay and Co.

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Panto. with Mr. J. C. Williamson, as Principal Boy in "Puss in Boots."
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A comedian with new methods, and a unique personality.—The "People," Sept. 8, 1912.
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Managers specially invited to see this Act. It's Original and Entertaining.
There is no breaking open safes in this Act.

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The Original Chocolate-Coloured Coon.
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Enormous success of his two new songs, "Hullo! Susie Green," and "I've had my fortune told."
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